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Minutes of the Faculty meeting, August 20, 2008

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MEETING OF THE FACULTY
August 20, 2008
Orgill Room, Clough Hall, 9:00 am

1. Call to Order, Professor Darlene Loprete, Presiding
2. Report of the President

President Trout made the following remarks.

Welcome back! I hope you had a good summer. Here on campus, a summer highlight for me was two very meaningful conversations with our Faculty Governance Committee. The topic was academic leadership and who they felt would be the very best person possible to serve as our academic leader for the next two years. The result, as you know, was an invitation to Michael Drompp to serve as Dean of the Faculty and Vice President for Academic Affairs. I'll have a little more to say about how pleased we all are he said "yes" when I introduce him in just a few minutes.

I was reminded from those conversations of all the good that can happen when you simply sit down together and listen carefully to one another about what matters most to you. Candid, honest conversation...there's really nothing better than that. I want to thank our Faculty Governance Committee for these conversations and for the spirit of collaboration that they represent. These are the kind of conversations that I want to have with you this fall. These are the kind of conversations that several years ago led to our ten planning task force initiatives – our Faculty Trustee Retreat at Orange Lake – our Vision for Rhodes – and so much of the progress we have made in creating an even stronger and more vibrant liberal arts college. The first two of these conversations are scheduled for September 2 and September 8. We hope to schedule enough of these meetings at different times to be sure everyone can attend. I want to be sure we capture what matters most to you, and that we take full advantage of all your insights and hopes for Rhodes.

This year I also will be calling upon a number of you for your help as we celebrate the completion of Spence Wilson's tenure as our board of trustees' chair. As most of you know, Spence has set a new tone for collaboration between faculty, trustees, and administration. He has led by example in so many ways. He personally funded our Orange Lake Retreat, endowed the Wilson Chair in Humanities and the Wilson Faculty Travel Fund. He also chairs of our Campaign for Rhodes.

There will be a reception following our Opening convocation next week in Hardie Auditorium. It will be an opportunity for us to welcome our new faculty colleagues and reconnect with everyone. Several of our local trustees plan to be there. I hope you will take this opportunity to introduce yourself to them. They are most interested in knowing you and more about your work with our students. It's all part of this tone of collaboration our Chairman has set.

Also coming out of our trustee-faculty retreat at Orange Lake was a resolve to take full advantage of our city and region in creating learning opportunities for our students that would build on all the good work you do with them in the classroom.

One of my most vivid memories was everyone's reaction to one of our retreat resource people – the former Board chairman of William College. We all hoped to learn from him how that fine college worked so well. What we learned was – “We're Williams, we're wealthy, you're not.” Not a terribly helpful message. But it did inspire us to think about all our assets and one of them is being of the very few selective liberal arts colleges in a city. And we left Orange Lake with a resolve to augment our resources by taking full advantage of Memphis in every way that would add value to the academic experience here. And we really have. This strategy has brought us much success – you can see it in new opportunities for our students, new sources of financial support, and students from places where no one had heard of Rhodes before.

But every successful strategy has an unintended consequence. I do want to acknowledge that in our efforts to communicate all the rich learning opportunities being created for students beyond our gates we have sometimes lost our core message – that these opportunities are possible only because of our excellence in the classroom. That's where liberal arts excellence at Rhodes is centered. As one of our trustees says, “That's where the magic begins.” As Bill Evans, the CEO at St. Jude and another Rhodes trustee says, “We treasure our relationship with Rhodes because of what you do before a student comes to us.” It's always the first part of our message to prospective students, and I want to be sure we reinforce that message during the year ahead.

You'll enjoy hearing about our incoming class from Dave Wottle. You'll be particularly pleased to hear about the academic potential of our incoming class and all the places where the Rhodes message has connected with very fine students. Hopefully, the Class of 2012 will reflect a wonderful story one of our trustees shared last week. One of her Rhodes classmates was talking about her son's encounter with a Princeton Dean... “that's where they take a really good student and turn them into brilliant scholars.”

We want to provide more opportunities this fall for you to hear directly from more members of the administration and how we can work together even more closely in the days ahead, e.g. Jenna Wade on the Campaign for Rhodes, Allen Boone on our current finances, our endowment, and our facilities. I do want to say a quick word today about our facility plans and our campaign.

The renovation of Burrow Hall is moving along nicely with occupancy scheduled for next semester. It is going to present new ways for how our community accomplishes its work... It is also a key next step in our academic space plan. This time next year we'll see Modern Languages join the Department of English in Palmer Hall. The Dean of the Faculty and Academic Affairs staff will also be under one roof as they anchor the 2nd floor of Palmer where student affairs offices now reside. This will lead to a succession of moves that enable our academic space plans to become reality. I am also pleased to report that with two major financial commitments this summer we are close to completing funding for the Burrow renovation.

That's all good news. What's not good news is that construction is messy. Those of you have renovated a home know exactly what I mean. Please bear with us this fall. We have maintained faculty and staff parking in the Buckman lot and have fenced off construction parking. We have added security at the North Parkway gate to help with egress onto the campus. Again, our plans are to have Burrow ready for occupancy in January.

The Campaign for Rhodes remains a top priority for me and the leadership of our Board. We continue to see positive responses to our story and our hopes for new support for students and faculty. We are particularly encouraged by the rapid growth in giving from an emerging giving constituency. That emerging constituency is parents of our current students. Our growing success is really a tribute to your wonderful work with our students in and out of the classroom, e.g. [USA Today](#) editor conversation about legacy admissions; first-year parent who made a \$500,000 campaign gift and wants to do more – “what you have done for my son has been extraordinary.” What you do for all of our students is extraordinary. I hope you know how much I appreciate all your hard work. Thank you for all you do for Rhodes.

Let me close by going back to the highlight of my summer.

When I met with our Faculty Governance committee in June, we first talked about the qualities most important to us in academic leadership. We quickly agreed the two leadership qualities most important to us at this important time in the academic life of our college. Two key qualities: (1) the ability to listen and (2) the ability to make sound judgments especially in academic personnel decisions. Our colleague, Michael Drompp, embodies those qualities. To those of you new to Rhodes you should know that our Dean of the Faculty and Academic Vice President is an outstanding scholar, a very respected teacher, and someone who has served our college in extraordinary ways.

Michael, in your first two months, you have already done a great deal to demonstrate that you listen carefully. And in all you are doing, you demonstrate your deep understanding and respect for the academic values that make our community such a very special place. Please join me in thanking Michael Drompp for taking on this two-year appointment and for what he has already done to make us a better place.

3. Report of the Dean of the Faculty

Dean Drompp expressed his appreciation for the well wishes that he has received subsequent to his appointment. He also outlined a number of items that will be on his agenda in the coming months. These include issues of faculty governance and evaluation, of communication within the College's community, and of completing our work for the SACS review next spring. Dean Drompp then introduced Dean David Wottle who presented the profile of the entering class (see the attached).

4. Introduction of New Faculty, Professor Loprete

Twenty-two of this year's new members of the Faculty were recognized (see the attached), and each was asked to briefly introduce himself or herself.

5. The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 am.

ATTENDANCE

ACKERMAN, BALDWIN, BANERJEE, BAUER, BIGELOW, BIRNBAUM, BLANKENSHIP, BOSWELL, BRADY, BRECK, BREMER, BROWN, BRYANT, BUTLER, CAFIERO, CANON, CAPPELLATO, CARDEN, CARDENAS, CARNE, CECCOLI, COLE, COONIN, DAGGER, A. DAVIS, J. DAVIS, DOYLE, DROMPP, DUNWELL, EWING, FERNÁNDEZ, FINLAYSON, FISHER, FITZ GERALD, GERECKE, GOLDBERG, GOTTLIEB, T. GRAMM, M. GRAMM, GRAY, GREMILLION, HAAS, HALÁSZ, HAMMOCK, HAN, HARTER, HATHCOCK, HAYNES, HILD, HILL, HOERL, HOFFMEISTER, IBRYAMOVA, IVORY, JABBOUR, JACKSON, JACKSON-HAYES, JAMERSON, JANSEN, A. JASLOW, C. JASLOW, JETER, JILG, JOHNSON, JULIAN, KALTNER, KELLER, KESLER, KIRBY, KOSTINA, KREITNER, KRUEGER, KUS, LAROSA, LINDQUESTER, LOPIPARO, LOPRETE, LUQUE, LUSTECK, MALKIN, MARTINEZ, MASON, MATTSON, MAURER, McKENZIE, N. McKINNEY, MEYER, MILLER, MONTELIONE, MORELAND, MORRELL, MOURON, MUESSE, MURRAY, NASONG'O, NEWMAN, NEWSTOK, NOLLAN, NOVIKOFF, OLSEN, PAGE, PANTER, PETTINAROLI, PETTY, PITTMAN, PLANCHON, POHLMANN, J. RICHARDS, R. RICHARDS, ROBERTS, ROBINSON, ROMANO, RONAN, RUSS, SABLE, SATTERFIELD, SAXE, SCIUBBA, SEATON, SHADE, SHAFFER, SHEARD, SHIRLEY, SICK, SIMMONS, SMITH, STEEL, STRANDBURG, SWAN, TEREM, TERJESEN, THOMPSON, VERNON, VEST, VIANO, WALTON, R. WATKINS, T. WATKINS, WETZEL, WILLIAMS, WIRLS, WRIGHT

EXCUSED

BARR, NELSON, STREETE

ABSENT

ALBERTSON, CHURCH, COPPER, CRAIG, HARMON, LUCIA, McCARTHY, C. McKINNEY, O'SULLIVAN, RISLEY

OTHER PARTICIPANTS IN THE FACULTY MEETING

HANDWERKER, LAAKSO, MUNSON, TROUTT, WOTTLE

Respectfully submitted,

David Y. Jeter
Secretary of the Faculty

Verification: _____
Thomas E. Bryant

PROFILE OF THE CLASS OF 2012

Admission Statistics:

- **35,894** inquiries
- **3,884** applications were received
- **1,904** students were accepted, or **49%** of the applicant pool
- **486** entering students, including **478** first-year students

Academic Credentials:

Of the **478** members of the Class of 2012:

- **16** were valedictorians of their class; **12** were salutatorians
- **Fifty-five percent** ranked in the top 10% of their class
- **Seventy-one percent** had a grade point average equal to or above a 3.5, the mean GPA of the class is **3.73**
- Composite standardized test scores for the class are impressive: the middle 50% range of SAT scores is **1200 to 1360**, with a mean of **1280**, and the ACT middle 50% range is **26 to 30**, with a mean of **28**

Honors and Activities:

- **29** were presidents of their student government or senior class; **26** were student government or senior class vice presidents; **17** were president or vice president of the National Honor Society
- **96** were president of at least one high school club or organization
- **30** were editors of the yearbook, school newspaper or literary magazine
- **116** were captains of a varsity athletic team

Geographic and Racial Diversity:

- The Class of 2012 comes from **38** states and **6** foreign countries; from as far away as California, Maine, Vietnam, China, Romania, United Kingdom, South Africa and Belgium and as close by as mid-town Memphis (**This includes 3 exchange students**)
- The number of students by state include: Tennessee with **111**, or 23% of the class, followed by Texas with **62**, Louisiana with **32**, Missouri with **29**, and Alabama with **29**
- Students of color make up almost **21%** of the entering class with **41** African-Americans, **39** Asian students, **14** Hispanic students, and 4 other minorities for a total of **98** minority students

NEW FULL-TIME FACULTY 2008-09

Rachel N. Bauer joins the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures as Assistant Professor. Dr. Bauer received her B.A. from Duquesne University, her Masters in Spanish Literature from Purdue University, and her Ph.D. in Spanish Literature from Vanderbilt University. Her dissertation was entitled “Madness and Laughter: Cervantes’s Comic Vision in *Don Quixote*”. Prior to coming to Rhodes, Dr. Bauer served as Assistant Professor of Spanish at Meredith College. Her research interests include early modern comic literature, word play in Cervantes, journey and humor, baroque poetry, and narrative cartography.

Eric J. Breck joins the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science as Visiting Assistant Professor. Dr. Breck received his B.S. in Mathematics and Linguistics from the University of Michigan, his M.S. and Ph.D. in Computer Science from Cornell University. His research interests include natural language processing, machine learning, and artificial intelligence. Prior to coming to Rhodes, Dr. Breck served as Instructor and Teaching Assistant in the Department of Computer Science at Cornell and as a Senior Artificial Intelligence Engineer at the MITRE Corporation. Dr. Breck received the National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship at the University of Michigan and is a member of Phi Beta Kappa.

Clayton D. Brown joins the Department of History as Assistant Professor. Dr. Clayton received B.A.’s in both Asian Studies and History from Utah State University, his M.A. in History from Utah State University, and his PhD in East Asia Studies from the University of Pittsburgh. His dissertation, entitled “Making the Majority: Defining Han Identity in Chinese Ethnology and Archaeology”, explores the modern creation of Han, China’s majority and now the largest ethnic group on earth. Prior to coming to Rhodes, Dr. Brown served as Instructor on Modern East Asian Civilizations at the University of Pittsburgh. His special interests include oral histories and interviews with war veterans to understand how the experiences of common people intersect with global history.

Ben Butler joins the Department of Art as Assistant Professor. Mr. Butler received his Master of Fine Arts from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and his B.A. from Bowdoin College. Prior to coming to Rhodes, Mr. Butler taught at SUNY New Paltz, Bowdoin College and the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. His interests include modern and post modern art, ceramics, sculpture, photography, and contemporary art criticism.

Kristin Cole joins the Department of English as Assistant Professor. Dr. Cole received her B.A. in English and German from Hanover College, her M.A. in English from the University of Texas at Austin, and her Ph.D. in English from the University of Texas at Austin. Her dissertation was entitled “Rum, Ram, Ruf, and Rym: Middle English Alliterative Meters.” Before coming to Rhodes, Dr. Cole served as Lecturer in the Department of English at the University of Texas at Austin. Prior to this position, she served as Instructor at the University of Texas at Austin. Dr.

Cole is the recipient of the Medieval Summer Fellowship from the University of Texas at Austin, the Swedish Studies Excellence Endowment Scholarship, and the Professional Development award from the University of Texas at Austin.

Alberto del Pozo Martinez joins the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures as Assistant Professor. Mr. Martinez received his B.A. in Spanish Literature from the University of Zaragoza, Spain, his Masters in Spanish Literature from Vanderbilt University, and will soon receive his Ph.D. in Spanish Literature from Vanderbilt University. His dissertation, entitled “Impacto de la Filología en la literatura hispanoamericana: la obra de Roberto Bolaño” (“Impact of Philology on Spanish American Literature: the Works of Roberto Bolaño”), focuses on how modern and postmodern literary creation in Spanish America has progressively adopted the forms of literary criticism. Mr. Martinez has served the past four years as a Graduate Teaching Assistant at Vanderbilt University. His research interests include 20th and 21st Century Spanish American prose fiction and Theories of Literary History and Literary Genres: Benjamin, Bakhtin, Foucault.

Kimberly Fisher joins the Department of Chemistry as Assistant Professor. Dr. Fisher received her B.S. from Wheeling Jesuit University, her M.S. from West Virginia University, and her Ph.D. from West Virginia University. Her dissertation topic was “A Short and Concise Synthesis of a Variety of Napthoquinones and Hydroquinones and the Application of the Methodology in Total Synthesis of Ellipticine Analogs.” Before joining Rhodes, Dr. Fisher served as Instructor at West Virginia University. Her skills include multi-step chemical synthesis and infrared spectroscopy.

Barrett Hathcock joins the Department of English as Assistant Professor. Dr. Hathcock received his B.A. in English, with a concentration in Creative Writing, from Rhodes College in 2000, and his M.F.A. in Creative Writing (Fiction) from the University of Alabama. Before coming to Rhodes, he served as Teaching Assistant for the Department of English in the University of Alabama. Prior to this position, Dr. Hathcock served as adjunct Communication Arts Instructor in Samford University. Dr. Hathcock is the recipient of the Buford Boone Fellowship. His publications include stories in *The MacGuffin*, essays in *The Quarterly Conversation* and *The Colorado Review*, and book reviews.

Matthew Hild joins the Department of History as Assistant Professor. Dr. Hild received his B.A. in History from Kennesaw State College, his M.A. from the University of Georgia, and his Ph.D. from Georgia Institute of Technology. His dissertation was entitled “Greenbackers, Knights of Labor, and Populists: Farmer-Labor Insurgency in the Late-Nineteenth-Century South.” Prior to joining Rhodes, he was a Visiting Lecturer at Georgia State University. Dr. Hild has authored the book *Greenbackers, Knights of Labor, and Populists: Farmer-Labor Insurgency in the Late-Nineteenth-Century South*.

Alexandra Hoerl joins the Department of Political Science as Assistant Professor. Dr. Hoerl received her B.A. in Public Policy from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, and her Ph.D. from Rutgers University. Her dissertation was entitled “The Necessity of Inspiration and the Crisis of Modern Political Communication.” Before coming to

Rhodes, she served as Full-Time Visiting Lecturer at the University of Vermont. Her research interests are classical and medieval political thought, modern political thought, American and British political thought, republican and democratic political thought, public policy, interest groups, and political participation. Dr. Hoerl received the Bevier Dissertation Fellowship from Rutgers University. She is a member of American Political Science Association and Association for Political Theory.

Heather Jamerson joins the Department of Anthropology and Sociology as Assistant Professor. Ms. Jamerson received her B.S. in Human Development from Montreat College, her M.T.S. from the Candler School of Theology, Emory University, and will soon receive her Ph.D. in Sociology & Certificate in Women's Studies from Emory University. Her dissertation, entitled "Wines Tastes: The Role of Service Workers and Consumers in Cultural Production", uses wine as a case study to examine how the production of culture through institutional classification systems and service worker intermediaries interact with consumers who have varying levels of cultural capital to create, maintain, or lessen social hierarchies. Ms. Jamerson has won several teaching awards as a graduate instructor at Emory University, including the Dean's Teaching Fellowship and the Department of Sociology Graduate Student Teaching Award on two separate occasions. Her teaching interests focus on social/political theory, social stratification, culture, economic sociology, urban or community sociology, and social change. Ms. Jamerson's research interests focus on the interaction of social structures and the cultural beliefs, values, and norms that legitimate these arrangements. She is currently writing several articles, one entitled "Crush" The Battle Between Old Wine Culture and New World Wine Markets".

Laura Luque de Johnson joins the Department of Biology as Assistant Professor. Dr. Luque de Johnson received her B.S. in Biology from Florida International University, her M.S. in Molecular and Cell Biology from the University of Texas at Dallas, and her Ph.D. in Molecular and Cell Biology from the University of Texas at Dallas. She is currently completing a postdoctoral fellowship at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in the Department of Infectious Diseases and has also served as a visiting Assistant Professor in the Department of Biology here at Rhodes during the 2007-08 school year. Dr. Luque de Johnson's research interests include molecular mechanisms of viral entry and virus-mediated membrane fusion, structure-based design of inhibitors against paramyxovirus replication, and development of vaccine against paramyxovirus infection.

Michael Julian joins the Department of Chemistry as Assistant Professor. Dr. Julian received his B.S. in Chemistry from the University of Central Arkansas and his Ph.D. in Organic / Polymer Chemistry from the University of Southern California. His thesis was entitled "Preparation and Use of Photonic Band Gap Structures to Manipulate the Optical Properties of Photoactive Materials". Prior to coming to Rhodes, Dr. Julian served as Chemistry Instructor at California State University-Stanislaus and a Visiting Assistant Professor at University of Arkansas – Fort Smith. He has also served as a postdoctoral research assistant at Iowa State University as well as the University of Southern California. His expertise lies in design, synthesis, modification, and analysis of

Nanomaterials, characterization of materials using analytical and photophysical instrumentation, and multiple step synthetic organic and polymer synthesis

Jeanne Lopiparo joins the Department of Anthropology and Sociology as Assistant Professor. Dr. Lopiparo received her A.B. in Anthropology from Harvard University, where she was Phi Beta Kappa, and her Ph.D. in Anthropology from the University of California at Berkeley. Her dissertation was entitled “Household Ceramic Production and the Crafting of Society in the Terminal Classic Ulua Valley, Honduras.” Dr. Lopiparo recently served as a research fellow in the Department of Archaeology at Umea University in Sweden as well as a postdoctoral scholar in the Department of Anthropology/Archaeological Research at UC Berkeley. She has published numerous articles in anthropological and archaeological publications and has done extensive research in Ulua Valley, Honduras. Prior to coming to Rhodes, Dr. Lopiparo served as Visiting Lecturer in the Department of Anthropology at UC Berkeley.

Joe Montelione joins the Department of Music as Assistant Professor. Mr. Montelione received his B.A. in Music in Trumpet Performance from the State University of New York College, his M.A. in Trumpet Performance from George Mason University, and will soon receive his D.M.A. in Trumpet Performance from the University of Southern California. He has most recently served as the Trumpet Ensemble Director, Brass Ensemble Conductor, Chamber Winds Conductor, and Music Librarian at USC. Mr. Montelione has performed in a number of Broadway musicals, such as the *King and I* and *Victor/Victoria*.

Alex J. Novikoff joins the Department of History as Assistant Professor. Dr. Novikoff received his B.A. in History and Archaeology from NYU, where he was Phi Beta Kappa, his M.A. in Medieval Studies from the University of York, U.K., his MPhil in Historical Studies from Wolfson College, Cambridge University, and his Ph.D. in Medieval History from the University of Pennsylvania. His dissertation, entitled “Dialogue and Disputation in Medieval Thought and Society, c. 1050-1350”, seeks to draw connections between written dialogues and the cultural and institutional world of scholastic and university disputations. Prior to coming to Rhodes, Dr. Novikoff served as visiting assistant professor at St. Joseph’s University and as an adjunct professor at Rutgers University, Temple University, and Rosemont College.

Rashna Wadia Richards joins the Department of English Assistant Professor of Film Studies. Dr. Richards received her BComm from Narsee Monjee College in Mumbai India while minoring in English. She received her M.A. in English from the University of Mumbai (Bombay), focusing on Feminism and Postcolonial Studies. She later received another M.A. in English from West Virginia University focusing on Critical Theory and 20th Century American Literature. Dr. Richards received her Ph.D in English (Film and Media Studies) from the University of Florida. Her dissertation was entitled “Lightning Flashes: A Cinephiliac History of Classic Hollywood”. Before coming to Rhodes, Dr. Richards was Assistant Professor as well as the Director of Film Studies in the Department of English at SUNY Brockport. Prior to this position, Dr. Richards served as an Instructor in Radio-TV-Film at Auburn University and was a Graduate Teaching Assistant in the Department of English at both the University of Florida and

West Virginia University. Her teaching interests include U.S. film history, film theory and aesthetics, transnational and cultural studies, Indian diasporic cinema, Bollywood and postcolonial studies, critical theory, and American Literature and Culture, 20th and 21st Century.

Jeffrey J. Sable joins the Department of Psychology as Assistant Professor. Dr. Sable earned his B.A. in Psychology from Drury College (now Drury University), his M.S. in Psychology (Behavioral Neuroscience/Physiological Psychology) from Kansas State University, and his Ph.D. in Psychological Sciences (Cognition and Neuroscience) from the University of Missouri-Columbia. His dissertation was entitled “Electrical and optical investigations of event-related brain activity in human auditory cortex elicited by rapidly presented tones”. Dr. Sable has most recently served as Visiting Assistant Professor and Scientist at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He also taught undergraduate courses at KSU and the University of Missouri as a Graduate Instructor. Dr. Sable teaching interests include neuroscience, especially physiological psychology, sensation and perception, experimental methods, and introductory or general psychology.

Susan Satterfield joins the Department of Greek and Romans Studies as Assistant Professor. Dr. Satterfield received her B.A. in classics from the University of Alabama and will soon receive her Ph.D. in classics from Princeton University. Her dissertation, entitled “Gifted Knowledge: The Sibylline Books in the Roman Republic and Early Empire”, is a social and religious history examining the use of the Sibylline Books in Roman society, Italian relations, and foreign diplomacy. Prior to working on her doctorate, Ms. Satterfield served as Intermediate Latin Instructor at Princeton. Her research interests include Roman religion, Roman history, and Latin historiography. Ms. Satterfield’s honors include being a member of Phi Beta Kappa and receiving the Harvey Fellowship to support her doctoral work. She recently presented her paper entitled “Alien Insiders: The Etruscan *Haruspices* in Rome” at the annual meeting of the American Philological Association in Chicago.

Jennifer Sciubba joins the Department of International Studies as Faculty Fellow for Environmental Studies. Ms. Sciubba received her B.A. in International Relations from Agnes Scott College, where she was Phi Beta Kappa, her M.A. in Government and Politics from the University of Maryland, and will soon receive her Ph.D. in International Relations and Comparative Politics from the University of Maryland as well. Her dissertation, entitled “The Politics of Population Aging in Germany, Italy, and Japan”, combines political science, demography, and economics to argue that fears of gerontocracy from population aging ignore two important factors: the particularities of political institutions and the politics of aging in policy areas outside of social security. Ms. Sciubba has most recently served as Instructor in the Principles of Government and Politics at the University of Maryland as well as a Demographics Consultant in the Office of the Secretary of Defense in Arlington, VA.

Michael Sheard joins the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science as Department Chair and Professor of Mathematics. Dr. Sheard received his B.A. from Yale University, his M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of California at Berkeley. Prior

to coming to Rhodes, Dr. Sheard served as the Rutherford Professor of Mathematics at St. Lawrence University and was Chair of its Department of Mathematics, Computer Science, and Statistics from 1994-2002. He has also been a Visiting Scholar at Dartmouth, a Visiting Associate Professor at Amherst College, a Visiting Assistant Professor at the University of Alaska Fairbanks, and an Instructor at the Ohio State University. His research specializations include mathematical logic, philosophy of logic, set theory, and graph theory.

Etty Terem joins the Department of History as Assistant Professor. Dr. Terem is a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Center for Middle Eastern Studies at Harvard University. She received her B.A. and M.A. in Middle Eastern History from Tel Aviv University and Ph.D. in History and Middle Eastern Studies from Harvard University. Her research interest has been the relationships between Islamic law and society. Her dissertation entitled the *New Mi'yar* of al-Mahdi al-Wazzani: Local Interpretation of Family Life in Late Nineteenth Century Fez is a study of legal thought as a cultural phenomenon. Prior to coming to Rhodes, Dr. Terem taught at Boston University and served as a Teaching Fellow at Harvard and Tel Aviv University.