

## *Thirty*

Recently I was asked how long Classics had been taught here. My answer, of course, was “from the beginning.” From the foundation of the University of King’s College in 1789 and during each successive realization of Dalhousie over the following century, Greek, Latin and their literatures have been studied among us—almost 225 years. (Next year we must have a big party!) Longevity, however, has not brought senility. Classics, in a joint King’s-Dalhousie faculty, has more students in its classes and programmes than at any time in its long history. I can add, with the same pride that is characteristic of them, that our students have never been better nor happier to be part of our ongoing community.

Thirty annual issues of an international scholarly journal is also an anniversary to be celebrated. There is special reason for rejoicing when age comes with innovation and renewal. This issue includes our first article with Arabic text. We are proud to publish from an alumna and a member of our Religious Studies Programme, “Philo’s Odyssey into the Medieval Jewish World: Neglected Evidence from Arab Christian Literature,” jointly authored by Emily Parker and Dr Alexander Treiger. Let us hope that this remnant from the Jewish, Islamic and Christian convivencia in the medieval Middle East is another prelude to the founding of a Jewish Studies Chair in our Department. The Thirtieth Volume also announces that, beginning with the thirty-first, *Dionysius* will be published online and in paper. Subscribers will be able to choose. This will be a crucial innovation.

Time also brings passages. This volume is dedicated to the last of the founding fathers of *Dionysius*. Patrick Atherton disappeared from our vision in September 2012 and it is by happy chance that we are able to honour his many contributions to our Department and to *Dionysius* in the same volume as we are publishing papers delivered at an Academic Celebration of another of our founders, the Reverend Dr Robert Crouse. The Celebration was held on October fourteenth and fifteenth, 2011.

REQUIESCANT IN PACE ET LUX PERPETUA LUCEAT EIS.