Such a lot happens every day and every week in our School that at times it can feel like something of a whirlwind. It is only when one pauses for breath for a minute, and tries to take in the whole scene, that all the different pieces of our operation and all of our activity assumes much in the way of shape and direction.

What we are about, at the end of the day, is the production and dissemination of knowledge about how human beings have ordered and made sense of their worlds, from ancient times through to the present. Academics, students, honours, granting bodies, the government, benefactors and other stakeholders and members of our broader community are all united in this quest. On the administrative and governance side, actions we take, moneys we spend and policies we advance all have to be judged against this standard – is this helping us fulfill our overall mission?

A major effort within the School over the last year or so is nearing completion – reviews of all of our majors. These can be a tedious bureaucratic box-ticking exercise if done without any sense of purpose or direction, but they also provide an opportunity to closely consider a major part of our operations, how efficient they are, how they can be better designed and how they can serve staff and students better. I am enormously grateful to Associate Professor Neil Pembroke and Dr Tom Stevenson, who have overseen the process, the convenors of the various disciplines, the external reviewers, and all staff for engaging in these program reviews when there are many other competing calls on time.

The result, once all the changes are through, will be slightly leaner curricula which, although having less quantity in terms of the number of courses taught, will have considerably enhanced quality and greater coherence. All of our disciplines now have strategies for engaging with schools to try and attract students. All disciplines now have efficient and logical progression, and all can now enunciate, in clear and plain English, what each level of study, as well as the program overall, seeks to achieve.

All have also now addressed the sometimes-thorny question of “employability” – a major University and HASS Faculty priority. The “critical disciplines” such as ours might cavil at the thought of producing compliant workers for late capitalism, but I think we can easily avoid this problem by thinking of employability in a broad sense – how are we going to assist students in employing the skills and knowledge they have acquired in their time with us in future settings, be they academic research, private sector employment, cultural production etc?

And from time to time, we can sit back and enjoy the fruits of our labours. We recently held celebrations for both HPI undergraduate prize winners and HPI RHD graduates and their families (see the gallery on the following page). It’s sometimes only when we talk to these students at the end of their journey with us that we can understand just how much we have contributed to their development and enrichment as human beings. And that makes all the talk surrounding Form 11s, retention data, major structures, cornerstones, capstones and all the other elements of our undergraduate teaching worthwhile.

Assoc. Prof. Martin Crotty
Head of School
School Graduations and Prizes Gallery

Dr Lisa Featherstone and PhD graduate Dr Ana Stevenson

Prof. Clive Moore and PhD graduate Dr Martyn Brown

Honours prize winner Olivia Formby and parents with Dr Dolly MacKinnon and Assoc. Prof. Martin Crotty

Philosophy prize winner Rose Trappes and Jane Trappes with Dr Michelle Boulous Walker

Prof. Alastair Blanshard and Classics Honours scholarship prize winner Marianne Marshall

Religion essay prize winner Maggie Barron, Theosophical society prize winner Neal Apel and Dr Adam Bowles
Earlier this year I had the opportunity to conduct archival research at the Library of Congress in Washington D.C. The Library is the home of the John William Draper Family Papers, donated by his great-grandson in the 1970s. John William Draper (1811-82), a professor of chemistry and physiology at New York University, was an eminent 19th-century American-English scientist, known for his pioneering work in microphotography and astrophotography, and is said to have taken the first successful photograph of the human face and the moon. But Draper is most famous (or infamous) for his historical writing, particularly his History of the Conflict between Religion and Science (1874) and History of the Intellectual Development of Europe (1863). Draper saw the history of science as a series of inevitable conflicts between science and religion, with science ultimately prevailing triumphant. The main purpose of my time at the congressional library was to figure out what inspired Draper, to get a glimpse of his hopes and fears, and to bring alive his spiritual journey.

The Draper papers include family and general correspondence, speech, article, and book files, financial papers, newspaper clippings, and other miscellaneous material. There are, in total, 45 containers or boxes, adding up to approximately some 16,000 items. One of the most interesting items in the collection, particularly for a historian of science, is a manuscript of a paper Draper delivered at the 1860 Oxford meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science. This event is most well-known for the legendary debate between Bishop Samuel Wilberforce (1805-73) and Thomas Henry Huxley (1825-95) over Charles Darwin’s (1809-82) The Origins of Species (1859).

But with only a week allotted for research, I had to be quite selective in my reading. I decided to concentrate on Draper’s correspondence. Draper’s correspondence (approximately 2,000 items) chiefly concerns letters written to him by admirers and critics. Draper corresponded with a number of prominent American and European thinkers, from American historian and statesmen George Bancroft (1800-91) to English astronomer Joseph Norman Lockyer (1836-1920), the first editor of the influential scientific journal Nature.

Here I will briefly mention only one exchange. In a remarkable 1864 letter, Robert Chambers (1802-71), distinguished 19th-century popularizer of science and the anonymous author of the sensational Vestiges of the Natural History of Creation (1844), thanks Draper for sending him a copy of his Intellectual Development, declaring it a brilliant work, particularly his “view of human progress and human destiny.” He also wrote that he admired Draper’s point that theology has always obstructed real knowledge, and that the “pretension to infallibility, whether in a pope or a book,” is the “master evil of the world.” But there is much relief, he goes on to say, in “[biblical] criticism on one hand and science on the other”—both, he claims, were “working a vast change” in the history of humanity.

Now, Chambers denies that this “vast change” was harmful to religion. “After all that we have learned of the natural system of the world,” he writes, “there appears to me ample scope and range for the religious feelings in regard to the divine author and ruler, and in the concerns of the [immaterial] principle which works within us and is, as we hope, destined to survive the frail body.” The letter then takes an interesting turn. Chambers inquires: “I should like to know if you have means to give countenance to the alleged facts of spiritualism, and if so whether you regard these as capable of being brought within the range of the natural.” Chambers then declares that he is a “believer” in spiritualism, and that he himself has experienced table turning and spirit manifestations at a séance. Chambers concludes the letter by confiding in Draper that the previous year he had lost his wife and daughter, and that his own health was quickly deteriorating. Interestingly enough, Chambers was inspired to ask this question by Draper’s own comments in his Intellectual Development. Even more interesting, is the fact that the Chambers letter is only one of several from different authors asking Draper about his thoughts on spiritualism. One letter even entreats him to join an association of “scientific spiritualism.”

A month after receiving Chambers’ letter, Draper replied. He consoled Chambers that he too is “not altogether a stranger to family affliction & bereavement and therefore can sincere sympathy?” with him in his great loss. He then says that “Religion Philosophy [Love] are the only helpers we can look to for consolation in our misfortunes.” Draper thanks him for his comments on the Intellectual Development, and then
turns to Chambers’ central question. He explains that in the Intellectual Development, he “did not design to lend any countenance to Spiritualism as its [sic] called.” However, Draper does say he is open to “new information.” He then refers him to his textbook on Human Physiology, published in 1856, which explains, he says, his “views in this matter.”

I leave it to the curious to find out what were Draper’s views on the matter, but it is worth noting that Draper makes religious questions central to his book on human physiology: He writes, “The existence of God, his goodness, power, and other attributes; the existence of the soul of man, its immortality and accountability; the future life; our relations to and position in the world; its government: these are topics with which Physical Science is concerning itself, and from which Physiology can not hereafter be disconnected.” The important point here is that this exchange reveals something of the complexity of both men. Although both Draper and Chambers had broken ties with orthodox Christianity, they continued to retain remnants of their evangelical upbringing throughout their lives.

My time at the Library of Congress has greatly enhanced my thesis, and I am very grateful for the opportunity afforded by the School of Historical and Philosophical Inquiry for funding the trip.

James Ungureanu
Studies in Religion PhD Candidate

Clive Moore awarded John Kerr Medal

Professor Clive Moore, McCaughey Professor of History, received the Royal Queensland Historical Society’s John Douglas Kerr Medal of Distinction at a ceremony to mark Queensland Day on 6 June 2015. Clive has written extensively on Australian South Sea Islanders, the descendants of Pacific indentured labourers brought to Queensland in the nineteenth century. He has also researched the history of New Guinea and the Solomon Islands, and the gay history of Queensland.

“It’s important that The Royal Queensland Historical Society has always placed a stress on the Pacific Islands and their long historical relationship with Queensland,” Professor Moore said in receiving the prestigious medal.

The John Douglas Kerr Medal of Distinction is awarded annually by The Royal Queensland Historical Society of Queensland and the Professional Historians’ Association (Queensland) for excellence in historical research in the fields of Queensland and Australian history.
Philosophy Q&A with Peter Singer

On March 31, the Student Philosophy Association (SPA) and Effective Altruism Brisbane (EAB) hosted a very successful event featuring Professor Peter Singer (Melbourne/Princeton), someone widely considered to be one of the world’s most influential living philosophers. The topic of the event was ‘effective altruism’ which is also the focus of Prof. Singer’s newly released book, *The Most Good You Can Do*. The evening included a screening of a TED talk given by Prof. Singer, a Skype interview with him during which the audience could ask questions, and then continued discussion led by Dr Julian Lamont. The evening was hosted by Rose Trappes of SPA and myself, and we had enough people join us to almost fill the large lecture theatre.

There was an intergenerational twist to the evening, as my primary thesis supervisor is Dr Lamont, and Prof. Singer was once one of Dr Lamont’s supervisors. Dr Lamont said afterwards that he was very confident in the abilities of the next generation of ethical thinkers to master complex philosophical arguments. He noted that he had been to philosophy talks by Prof. Singer over many years, including professional philosophy conferences, and that he thought that the sophistication of the questioning by the UQ students rivalled anything that he had seen at the professional conferences. To keep up with the activities of SPA and EAB, you can follow them on Facebook, or contact them at these address: SPA: spauq.exec@gmail.com / EABris: eabrisbane@effectivealtruismhub.com. This is one of several popular events that SPA has run this semester. They would love to hear from other staff who are keen to join them in organising future events in second semester!

Michael Vincent
Philosophy PhD Candidate

ANZAMEMS: A Postgraduate Perspective

If the 10th Biennial Conference of the Australian & New Zealand Association for Medieval & Early Modern Studies (ANZAMEMS) had a theme, it might have been “diversifying.” As a postgraduate delegate, I was privileged to attend papers which not only stemmed from a diverse range of disciplines, including history, philosophy, literature, art history, religion, and music, but which also transcended the traditional boundaries of those disciplines to offer new insights into our study of the past.

The first keynote address by Jessie Ann Owens of UC Davis on “Cipriano de Rore and the Musical Representation of Emotion” set the dynamic tone of the conference. A Professor of Music, this was Owens’ first foray into the history of emotions and, by her own account, has produced new ideas for her current work on de Rore. Indeed, Day One was marked by a variety of innovative and interesting papers on such topics as pregnancy, poetry, and providence. In the evening, the Welcome Reception held at the UQ Art Museum was the perfect opportunity to begin networking with the other delegates, many of whom had traversed the globe to be there, from places as close as New Zealand, and as far as Scotland. The Reception revolved around the current Wunderkammer exhibition (open to 13th September), an eclectic collection of cultural curiosities from the Medieval and Early Modern worlds, and an apt mirror of the colourful and diverse ANZAMEMS 2015 program.

Day Two was opened by Laura Knoppers, Professor of English at Notre Dame University, with her keynote address entitled “Draw our Luxury in Plumes’: Andrew Marvell and the Aesthetics of Disgust.” This paper was highly evocative of Restoration England and thoroughly entertaining in its reading of Marvell’s raunchier satires. After morning tea, I was honoured, and not a little nervous, to be giving my own (very first) conference paper on “The Emotional Responses of Ordinary Villagers to the Eyam Plague, 1665-1666.” This opportunity to present my research to, and alongside, a broad and highly engaged academic community was invaluable. Although I enjoyed a wide range of panels throughout the conference, I happily found my own niche on Day Two in the next panel session on Early Modern “Sickness and Health.” The day ended with a relaxed Postgraduate Drinks gathering at the Red Room, sponsored by the School of Historical and Philosophical Inquiry and UQ ANZAMEMS Chair. It was wonderful to meet fellow students in various stages of postgraduate life, and to share many other conference “firsts.”

The final keynote address was delivered on Day Three by Alexandra Walsham, Professor of Modern History at the University of Cambridge on “Domesticating the Reforma-
tion: Material Culture, Memory and Confessional Identity in Early Modern England.” This fascinating paper, accompanied by spectacular images, explored how items of Delftware formed domestic religious identities in Reformation England through the appropriation of print and image, and was a highlight of ANZAMEMS 2015.

Possibly the most diversifying element of the conference was the presence of researchers from the Australian Research Council Centre of Excellence for the History of Emotions (ARC CHE), who formed a total of six panels, including two on Day Three. These panels centred on a single concept, such as “facial feeling” or “religious dislocation,” but incorporated multiple disciplinary approaches in their investigation of this still-burgeoning field. In the afternoon, I joined my fellow postgraduates for a round table on “Career Options” which discussed the challenges of the “traditional” tenure-track career, as well as alternative avenues for postgraduates including publishing, teaching, and librarianship. In the evening, I had the pleasure of attending the Conference Dinner at Customs House, courtesy of ARC CHE which sponsored the tickets of thirty Honours and postgraduate students. This was a lovely evening, accompanied by the music of The Badinerie Players, who matched their arrangements to four of the conference papers, including Owens’.

The final two days of ANZAMEMS were filled to the brim with papers that spanned the breadth and depth of the Medieval and the Early Modern, from an emotional history of “Moravian Missions and Slavery in the Caribbean” to a study of “Women and Religious Mendicancy in the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries.” Day Four culminated in the inaugural meeting of the Maddern-Crawford Network, so-named for two great women in our field, and so-formed as a collective network for female academics in what is still a male-dominated profession. This round table generated a lively sense of dialogue and community, which I am sure will burn into the future.

As ANZAMEMS 2015 came to a close on Saturday 18th July, I was able to reflect on the many exchanges that had taken place, the invigorating discussion of research and ideas, as well as the new networks I had formed with other postgraduates and academics that will surely be an amazing future resource. Twitter will be a useful tool for maintaining many of these connections and, indeed, was itself a site of diverse academic exchange during the conference for anyone following the official hashtag: #ANZAMEMS2015. This was a conference of Medieval and Early Modern studies that was diversifying – and energising – in its international, open-themed and interdisciplinary form.

Olivia Formby
History MPhil Candidate

On The Bookshelf: New Staff Publications

David M. Pritchard, Public Spending and Democracy in Classical Athens (Univ. of Texas Press)

Tom Aechtner, Health, Wealth and Power in an African Diaspora Church in Canada (Palgrave)

Alastair J.L. Blanshard

Alastair Blanshard, Classical World: All that Matters (Hodder and Stoughton)
School 3MT Competition

The School heats of this year’s ‘3 Minute Thesis’ competition were held at the end of semester one, masterminded by RHD Supremo Judy King. The judges were three Honorary staff members, Rev. Dr Raymond Reddicliffe, Dr Virginia Thorley, and Associate Professor William Grey. The winner of the competition was David Kinkead (Philosophy), while Chris Yuan (History) was runner-up and People’s Choice winner. The third-place winner, David Andersen (Classics) has sent in the following report on his experiences.

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A few months ago my supervisor Janette McWilliam asked me to participate in the three-minute thesis competition (3MT). Janette felt that the experience would be a valuable one for the development of my thesis. I was hesitant at first. I felt that this was just another task to add to my ever-increasing workload. However, as Janette predicted, doing 3MT was a valuable exercise and well worth the time I spent preparing for it. I recommend 3MT to all postgraduate students.

The rules of 3MT are simple – sell your thesis to a non-specialist audience and in less than three minutes. Following these rules is difficult! As anybody who knows me will tell you I am quite verbose at times, so I tend to find brevity challenging! But in seriousness, it is a challenge to summarise a thesis that you have worked on, potentially for years, in non-specialist language to a general audience. Adding to this challenge is the necessity to make your research relevant to such an audience. How does my work contribute to our society in a meaningful way?

My thesis explores the earliest portrayals of luxury and banquets in Roman social and political discourses. How did the negative portrayal of banquets arise, and why? One thing that I’ve noted from the beginning of my research is how we treat luxury in such a different way, because of our Capitalist context, and yet we treat excessive consumption of food and alcohol with at times similar moralizing rhetoric. I believe that history may make a valuable contribution to the wider debate on fitness and health, illegal drugs and consumption laws, among other things.

The purpose of 3MT is to give us experience in promoting our research in the form of presentation we might deliver if we were applying for funding from an industry body, or for tenure. It helped me clarify my ideas and provided me with a reasonable (and brief!) answer to ‘what is your thesis about’ and ‘why are you doing it?’ Indeed, it is our role as historians, students and those with a general interest to demonstrate to our peers why our discipline is important and relevant.

On a personal level 3MT helped me find an answer for the ‘pub test.’ That is, when faced with the inevitable ‘why do you do that?!’ question, I am well prepared to explain why, and briefly!

Overall, I was very impressed with the quality of the presentations that I saw on the day, and, to my surprise, against such competition I was awarded third place. This isn’t half bad for your very first attempt.

David Andersen
MPhil Candidate in Classics and Ancient History

HPI Athletics Update #2

Congratulations to the HPI team of Geoff Ginn, Cat Curnow, Rachael Briggs and Patrick Jory, who made the finals of the staff division of the Great Court Race! Their rivals were the Vice Chancellor’s Office, the Academic Services Division, and the Student Affairs Division. The HPI team came fourth on the day, but as School Manager Beck Hurst pointed out, that still makes HPI the fastest School, Faculty, Centre or Institute at UQ.

Patrick Jory and the competition

The second change over between Cat and Rachael
At the beginning of May, Dr Julian Lamont was asked by the Chung Tian Temple to give two talks to the Buddha Birthday Festival. The Festival is the largest annual Buddhist Birthday Festival in the world, and Dr Lamont gave talks on “Recognising Sources of Suffering”. At the beginning of July, Dr Lamont was also asked to give a speech at the 2015 Australian New Zealand Buddhist Youth Conference. That speech was entitled “Choosing and Living an Ethical Life”. It focused on the importance of consciously choosing to live ethically and the many factors which make it more likely for people to act unethically. The idea is that as people become more mindful of these factors they can use that knowledge to help them consciously choose to act in ways that do not harm or deceive others.

History PhD candidate Shimon de Valencia attended a multi-faith assembly and lecture by the Dalai Lama at St Stephen’s Cathedral in June, and was interviewed by the Brisbane Times about the experience.


At the end of first semester, we said goodbye to Dr Marion Stell (Centre for the Government of Queensland), Dr Chris Malone (Classics and Ancient History), Ms Cate Carter (Solid Pathways Project), and Associate Professor Rachael Briggs (Philosophy), who left to take up a position at Stanford University in US. We thank them all for their contributions to the School, and wish them all the best for the future. Associate Professor Phil Dove (Philosophy) has been awarded a Chair at the Australian National University, and will be leaving the School at the end of the year. There will be a farewell event held later in the semester to mark Phil’s significant contribution to the School.

We also have two new arrivals to welcome. At the beginning of semester two, Dr Shushma Malik arrived from the University of Manchester to begin a 2.5-year appointment in Classics. Dr Andrew Collins will be replacing David Pritchard while he is in Strasbourg.

Congratulations to the following RHD students on the award of their PhDs and MPhils in semester one, 2015!

Hollie Thomas
PhD, History
Principal Advisor: Dr Kriston Rennie
Associate Advisor: Professor John Moorhead

Martyn Brown
PhD, History
Thesis title: *Politics of forgetting: New Zealand-Greek wartime relationship*
Principal Advisor: Associate Professor Andrew Bonnell
Associate Advisor: Professor Clive Moore

Ruth Crocombe
MPhil, History
Thesis title: *The missionaries and the Guomindang: An exploration of the Seventh-day Adventist experience in Republican China*
Principal Advisor: Associate Professor Chi-Kong Lai
Associate Advisor: Dr Patrick Jory

Martyn Lloyd
PhD, Philosophy
Thesis title: *The Marquis de Sade’s philosophical ‘System’ in its enlightenment context*
Principal Advisor: Emeritus Professor Peter Cryle
Associate Advisor: Dr Aurelia Armstrong

Laura Roberts
PhD, Philosophy
Thesis title: *An alchemy of radical love: Luce Irigaray’s ontology of sexuate difference*
Principal Advisor: Dr Michelle Boulous Walker
Associate Advisor: Associate Professor Marguerite La Caze

Ana Stevenson
PhD, History
Thesis title: *The woman-slave analogy: rhetorical foundations in American culture, 1830-1900*
Principal Advisor: Associate Professor Chris Dixon
Associate Advisor: Professor Clive Moore
Susan Yarrow
MPhil, History
Principal Advisor: Professor Peter Spearritt
Associate Advisor: Dr Danielle Miller

Sharav Bhandari wins the ‘Quadrivia Cutest Photo’ competition for this issue!

Prof. Peter Spearritt and Susan Yarrow celebrate the award of her MPhil degree

The Honour Board: Staff Achievements

Many congratulations to Dr Amelia Brown who has been selected to participate in the ARC Laureate Mentoring Scheme at the University of Melbourne later this year. Only 10 percent of applicants were chosen, so this is some testimony to Amelia’s developing profile.

Congratulations also go to Dr David Pritchard, who has been awarded a one year salaried fellowship at the Institute for Advanced Studies at the University of Strasbourg in France. David will be based in Strasbourg from July 2015 through to June 2016.

Breaking News! Congratulations to Dr Kriston Rennie who has won a prestigious Humboldt Fellowship at the University of Dresden. Kriston will be undertaking the fellowship through all of 2016 and will be absent from HPI from November 2015 until January 2017.

Baby Boy for Erika Bhandari

Warm wishes go to HPI Finance Officer Erika Bhandari, who gave birth to her son, Sharav Bhandari, on March 17, 2015 (weighing 2.67 kg). Congratulations to the entire Bhandari family, Erika, Ashish, and Shreyas, on the new arrival.

Research Celebration 2015

On Friday 29 March, the School held its annual Research Celebration. This event allows the school to celebrate its research achievements for the previous year and connect with those researchers, such as honorary fellows and members of staff, that we normally don’t see in the usual course of academic activities.

This year the research celebration was expanded to include a full day of events. In the morning, Associate Professor Chris Dixon organized a presentation to the School by the Faculty Research Office. In the afternoon, Richard Hutch, currently Honorary Research Associate Professor in the School, spoke about his activities in the US Civil Rights movement and the frustrations and triumphs of the campaign to enroll black voters in the American South. Richard was only a college student when he heeded the call of Martin Luther King to fight against racial oppression and his speech was both moving and confronting.

In the evening, the celebration concluded with drinks, a display of research work undertaken in the school, and a presentation by Sue Edmondson, a graduate student in Classics, about her recent research trip in Spain. This event was well attended with a number of guests from across the Faculty present including the Executive Dean of the Faculty, Professor Tim Dunne, the Associate Dean (Research), Professor Joanne Tompkins, and the Associate Dean (Academic) Associate Professor Julie Duck.
Once again, the year had proved a bumper one for School research. Last year, we produced 28 books (incl. 10 edited books), 78 book chapters, 185 journal articles, and 48 conference papers. The range of topics produced by the School is impressive. Looking at the books alone, we managed to produce books on everything from Athenian democracy, Ancient Syria, the history of state and religion in India, the Roman letter-writer Fronto, the eco-philosophy of Richard Sylvan, the Bundaberg distilling company, the social politics of early-modern England as seen through a village in Essex, Julius Caesar, Twentieth-Century Christian responses to religious pluralism, and right-wing politics in Queensland.

This range of topics was matched by an equally impressive range of ways in which the School disseminated its research; not only producing academic works, but also films, museums exhibitions, and government policy documents. Far from staying in our offices or libraries, the School is out engaging with an exciting range of partners in industry, the government and community groups.

The Research Celebration also allowed us an opportunity to acknowledge the tremendous work done by our graduate community. Last year, we saw 17 PhD completions and 11 MPhil completions. The topics are too numerous to mention, but they are as equally diverse as the research produced by full-time members of staff. Theses included topics such as gay Berlin, ancient medicine, Sri Lankan Buddhism, Brisbane brothels, metaphysics and bioethics.

The Research Celebration could not have been such a success without the hard work of so many people and I would like to thank Lucy O’Brien, Beck Hurst, Judy King, and Denise Morgan. Special thanks should also go to Chris Dixon for not only his assistance in organizing these celebrations, but also the tremendous work that he does in managing the research portfolio in the School.

Professor Alastair Blanshard  
Deputy Head of School  
Paul Eliadis Professor of Classics and Ancient History

Productive HPI researchers enjoy a glass of bubbly to toast their achievements

HPI Athletics Update #3

A very tired HOS in the recovery area after completing the Brisbane Marathon on 2 August

Quadrivia Editors:  
Caillan Davenport and Serena Bagley