Letter from the President

Salvete, fellow Latin enthusiasts!

My name is Stephanie Wong, and I am the new president of the Illinois Junior Classical League North. On behalf of the IJCL state board of 2012-2013, I would like to thank you all for attending the IJCL’s 50th state convention that ran from February 28th to March 2nd this year. Danny, Hannah G., Sam, Ty, Hannah N., and I tried our very best to make it the best convention yet. We certainly hope you had fun!

Whether you’re a Latin first-year or a seasoned JCL senior, I can promise you that the IJCL has something to offer you. As an eighth-grader signing up for high school courses, I never thought I would soon join an organization that would eventually change my life. I can safely say that taking both Spanish and Latin is the best decision I’ve ever made. (Unlike former president Danny Washelesky, I can actually roll my Rs. But don’t tell him that; he likes to think he’s superior for only taking Latin.)

We have an exciting year planned for the IJCL. First up is the NJCL’s 60th convention at University of Nevada Las Vegas, which takes place from July 22nd to July 27th, 2013. Peter Chung, dedicated IJCLer (and also First VP of the national board!), invites all Latin students to attend this event that is often described as the best week of the year. Although midsummer temperatures in Vegas will be sweltering to say the least, they will do nothing to quell the spirit of the classics!

If you have a spare moment, consider checking out the IJCL’s presence in social media. Our website, iljcl.org, will keep you updated on all your Latin needs, and it also features a countdown to nationals! Our Twitter, @IJCLBoard, allows you to follow all the goings-on of the state board. If tweeting isn’t really your style, like the Illinois Junior Classical League on Facebook, where you can watch videos posted by fellow IJCLers and share your thoughts. First VP Hannah Novak has also created a blog (jcloving.blogspot.com) that will share information about the IJCL. And if you’re a Tumblrite like I am, consider following the IJCL at illinoisjcl.tumblr.com.

In this edition of the Nuntius, get to know your state officers! First VP Hannah, Second VP Maggie, Secretary Ali, Parli Devyn, and Historian Kate are all excited to get to know everybody throughout the year. You can also read about our 50th state convention and find out more about nationals.

I am so thrilled to serve you as the president of the IJCL. If you didn’t get a chance to meet me at our state convention or if you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please don’t hesitate to email me at synwong@gmail.com. I look forward to a JCLovely year!

E corde,

Stephanie Wong
IJCLN President 2013-2014
@classyclassicist
Meet the 2013-2014 IJCLN Board

Name: Stephanie Wong
Office: President
School: Naperville North High School
Year: Junior
Dislikes: Comic Sans, leaving voicemails, feet, Comic Sans, poor grammar, and running.
About: Stephanie is a junior at Naperville North, where she is often found making strange facial expressions and cracking jokes hardly anyone finds funny. In her free time, she enjoys reading books, having board shenanigans, singing 80s songs, and hero-worshipping the creator of the font Cambria. Aside from her JCLove Life, Stephanie plays badminton and competes on North’s congressional debate team. She also likes traveling and smelling brand-new books. To win her heart, all one must do is use an adjectival form of any noun, tell a good knock-knock joke, or lose their voice at a spirit competition. Stephanie encourages all IJCLers to attend the national convention in the University of Nevada Las Vegas, and if you see her around, be sure to say hi!

Name: Hannah Novak
Office: 1st Vice President
School: Naperville North High School
Year: Junior
About: Hannah is a 3rd year Latin student who currently resides in the Naperville North delegation. She likes long walks through the forum and poetry in perfect meter. She’s interested in maintaining a long-term relationship with an organization that creates positive changes in the lives of thousands of students, and she wants to bring more people into the relationship. Special interests include moving carts out of ditches, identifying Italy as a peninsula and NOT an island, and conjugating the sounds a weasel makes. Me voca, fortasse?

Name: Maggie Veltri
Office: 2nd VP
School: Elgin Academy
Year: Sophomore
Looking For: the remaining books of Satyricōn
About: Maggie Veltri, a sophomore at Elgin Academy, is elated to be the new 2nd VP of this year’s IJCLN board. At sixteen she plays volleyball, soccer, and basketball in addition to being on Student Council and Elgin Academy’s certamen team. Maggie is also a member of Elgin Academy’s baking club (Dough Gooders), Improv Club, Literary Magazine (Calliope’s Gold), two choirs (Encore and Upper School Choir), PADS group, and a volunteer at soup kitchen. In her free time she enjoys singing, reading, screaming her head off at conventions, and running. She does not like long walks on the beach, French fries, and pizza. Her favorite movie is The Breakfast Club and her favorite band is Weezer.
Name: Devyn Rigsby  
Office: Parliamentarian  
School: Northside College Prep  
Year: Sophomore  
About: Devyn Rigsby is a classy classicist. She is very excited to serve as the IJCLN Parliamentarian this year, help plan convention, and participate in all the board shenanigans! Nicknamed “Regina” by her NCP Latin friends, Devyn loves all aspects of the JCL and is an avid certawoman, specializing in language. Her favorite color is purple, and her favorite case use is the dative of agent. When she is not translating the IJCL Constitution into Latin, she enjoys playing the flute, reading British literature, shopping, eating dessert, and studying Arabic. She is also a golfer, Duke fan, and secret hair model. Outside of school and Latin conventions, Devyn loves to travel. Her favorite destination thus far is, shockingly, Italy. She cannot wait for NJCL this summer (in Las Vegas!) and hopes to meet many JCLers at the various Latin events throughout the year!

Name: Ali Murray  
Office: Secretary  
School: Northside College Prep  
Year: Junior  
About: Ali Murray is a Latin III student at Northside College Prep, the Literature specialist of its Advanced Certamen team, and the moderator of the classics blog Latin Student Problems. When she’s not doing Latin, she’s usually asleep or thinking about doing Latin. She enjoys long walks on the Via Appia and drinking mulsum by candlelight. Her favorite Roman author is Juvenal, because no one else brings the sass quite like he does, and her favorite convention event is Certamen. She has an unhealthy obsession with the Roman general Gaius Julius Vindex and can often be seen creating Wikipedia and Facebook pages in his honor. Among her interests are Harry Potter, puns, Rainbow Dash, corgis, Aquaman, asyndeton. Ali is incredibly excited to be working with the 2013-2014 IJCL board as secretary and can’t wait for all the shenanigans that this year has in store for her. She hopes that she gets to spend quality time reminiscing with old friends and making new ones. She considers her election to the state board one of her greatest accomplishments and for that, maximas gratias vobis agit!

Name: Kate Scott  
Office: Historian  
School: Barrington High School  
Year: Junior  
About: Kate is a long-time classics lover. She has been following certamen, attending convention, and reciting orations for as long as she can remember. Kate was given her nickname “Kate Scott Great Scott” in seventh grade for reasons unclear. She enjoys long runs in the park, and late-night art projects. Her latest 3 A.M. convention craft were Cyclops pets for her fellow convention attendees to care for. Along with JCL, Kate runs cross country and track at Barrington. Kate has been to 25 state capitals and has road-tripped more hours than most. One of Kate’s favorite songs is Thrift shop by Macklemore. Lastly, when asked about her statement 80s windbreaker, her substitute for a winter coat, she responded, “It’s my grandma’s coat haha.”
NJCL Teaser
National Latin Convention creates legends. This year the convention will take place on the campus of University of Nevada– Las Vegas. JCLers will bring togas to Caesar’s Palace, and new myths will be born. 1,150 beds will be given to the most dedicated, creative, and crazy members of the JCL from around the country. The gathering is a weeklong. There are tests that are for the brave-hearted, certamen rounds that are more exciting than College Basketball games, sports for the overly competitive, and dances every night that prove studying classics only ups your groove. NJCL has produced some great stories, pennies have been swallowed, the elusive ludi sweep has been attained, and world record breaking marathon times have been run. Hopefully, you snagged a packet to come to NJCL this summer from July 22-27. If not, keep your eye out for some toga pictures on your newsfeed in July. It should be another crazy convention.

IJCL Convention Recap
From February 28th to March 2nd, the IJCL celebrated its 50th state convention! Over 400 classics enthusiasts attended, and the memories made at this convention will last for a lifetime. Some highlights from convention are…

- Mr. Joyce’s Animal Noises colloquium made a very successful comeback.
- Peter Chung, First VP of the national board, gave the opening remarks to convention to the tune of Macklemore’s “Thrift Shop.”
- The IJCL state officers of 2012-2013 performed a Pokémon-themed auspices skit, most famously featuring former parliamentarian Ty Bowyer as Bronyta.
- Roll call was excellent this year! Let it be known that Barrington High School respects women and Northside College Prep has a goat in its delegation.
- Collinsville High School, an IJCL South school, attended its first North convention!
- Former president Danny Washelesky and current secretary Ali Murray made a JCL promotional video called “The Fourth Pun-ic War.”
- Former secretary and current president Stephanie Wong epically lost the SCL-hosted coin war—her punishment was to wear a baboon suit on Friday night. However, the money was donated to the IJCL Scholarship Fund, which will allow an IJCLer to attend convention free of charge!
- Mr. Conrad performed in the SCL’s skit at the banquet as the first dancer in the Harlem Shake.
- Both the old and the new boards had some quality time: most notably when they discovered the secret to making Easy Mac.

It seems as if no other state convention will be able to top this one. Just wait for the 51st convention!

IJCL South and North Come Together
Brandon Harmon-Moore (IJCL South Delegate)

There are some experiences that follow us through our lives. Experiences that push us forward and remind us why we love some of the things that we do. This year, I, a Collinsville High School senior, had the pleasure of experiencing my first Latin convention. Lucky for me, it was the State IJCL Convention. During my stay at this convention, I had many amazing, fun, and fresh experiences that I remember fondly.

The scale of this convention was enough to blow me away, especially considering how large the hotel was. I can’t explain to you the excitement that swept over me and my fellow southern delegates when we entered this glorious building. The board that ran this convention did a very good job with securing such a fine location and making every bit of that building work in favor of the many activities. Our group was kept very busy by said activities. We were almost always on our toes, moving from one place to the other to experience and learn as much as we could, as well as share our knowledge and spirit. There was so much spirit and Latin to see, and because it was Latin, it was all the more interesting.

During this convention, I was able to meet many new people and bond with a group of fabulous students who have now become lifelong friends, and I was able to have the time of my life. I will keep the amazing memories of this convention with me for life, and I cannot thank IJCL North for providing such a wonderful experience.
The 50th IJCL Convention in Photos

If you’d like to see your chapter’s events, photos, or other fun things in upcoming Nuntius issues, email them to me at kate8scott@gmail.com. Photos and upcoming events will appear on our website: iljcl.org. Thank you for your support!