

## PREFACE

This volume, *Representations of Philosophy in the Classical World*, is a collection of papers which were given at a graduate student conference sponsored by the Classics Department at the University of Pittsburgh in March of 1997. These papers represent, for many of the participants, either the seeds of their dissertations or a passion for a particular topic or approach in their research. Naturally then, the articles in the volume present a breadth and depth not only of subject matter but also of methodology, a synthesis which is highlighted by the almost lyrical discussion of poetry and philosophy in Dr. Alexander G. McKay's keynote paper, 'Vergil and the Garden'. It is not possible to give sufficient thanks or credit to all the participants for the quality of their work, and for their professionalism throughout the various stages of editing this volume.

Both this volume and the original conference were organized by two graduate students, K.A. Rosenbecker and Jana L. Adamitis, who are currently Ph.D. candidates in Classics at the University of Pittsburgh. Both projects originated from the firm belief that it is imperative to allow graduate students a forum beyond the classroom in which they can meet with one another, exchange ideas, and, in short, practice their profession. We are very pleased to find that so many graduate students and faculty alike agree with us in this.

Nevertheless, to permit graduate students to host a conference and, beyond that, to encourage them to edit the proceedings for publication required a great deal of faith and support not only on the part of our own department, but also from associated faculty and alumni. We are most grateful to have had assistance from Ms. Arlene Woodward, Dr. James Lennox, Dr. James V. Allen, Dr. Heda Segvic, Dr. Constance Carroll, Ms. Paula Yvonne Cuda, and the Classics graduate students at the University of Pittsburgh—especially Mr. Wesley Scott. We would like to thank in particular Dr. Mary Louise Gill for her trust and encouragement, Dr. Harry Avery for his kind and steady counsel, and Dr. Ronald Polansky for his supreme patience in guiding us through the editing process. Finally, there should be a special mention of my co-editor, Jana L. Adamitis. This volume is a testament to her dedication, and I thank her for the opportunity to share in it.

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K.A. Rosenbecker