NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE
Humanities

DIVISION OF **EDUCATION PROGRAMS**

Narrative Section of a Successful Application

The attached document contains the grant narrative and selected portions of a previously funded grant application. It is not intended to serve as a model, but to give you a sense of how a successful application may be crafted. Every successful application is different, and each applicant is urged to prepare a proposal that reflects its unique project and aspirations. Prospective applicants should consult the Education Programs application guidelines at http://www.neh.gov/grants/education/summer-seminars-and-institutes for instructions. Applicants are also strongly encouraged to consult with the NEH Division of Education Programs staff well before a grant deadline.

Note: The attachment only contains the grant narrative and selected portions, not the entire funded application. In addition, certain portions may have been redacted to protect the privacy interests of an individual and/or to protect confidential commercial and financial information and/or to protect copyrighted materials.

Project Title:	Communication, Empire, and the City of Rome
Institution:	American Academy in Rome
Project Director:	Richard Talbert
Grant Program:	Summer Seminars and Institutes for College and University Teachers

Proposal for NEH Summer Seminar for College Teachers
"Communication, Empire, and the City of Rome"
American Academy in Rome, June 25 to July 27, 2012

Co-Directors: Richard Talbert (University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC)
Michael Maas (Rice University, Houston, TX)

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II. NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

a. Abstract

The five-week 2012 summer seminar "Communication, Empire, and the City of Rome," is to be co-directed by Richard Talbert (UNC Chapel Hill) and Michael Maas (Rice University) at the American Academy in Rome, Italy. Rome and the Academy – which has hosted many NEH summer seminars in different fields of the humanities – offer the ideal location for the purpose. This seminar develops a rich theme that emerges from the two previous ones co-directed by Talbert and Maas (both at the Academy, in 2000 and 2006). It addresses questions fundamental to our understanding of the ancient Roman empire [see **Appendix a** for map]: What demands for communication does such a vast state create? How, in an age before telecommunications and rapid transportation, could an imperial system manifest its sovereignty and enable the circulation of personnel, ideas, and material goods? How were networks of communication structured and maintained? How did the multiplicity of networks function separately and together?

To answer these large questions we will be considering the special circumstances of the Roman empire (ca. 31 BC – ca. AD 500), with representative case studies chosen from this long period. We will be based in the city of Rome, the hub of the ancient Roman empire, to consider at firsthand the monuments and texts that anchored its many different communications systems. Our approach should appeal not only to faculty with a primary interest in the Romans, but also to those (teachers of World Civilizations, for example) who situate Rome's achievements in a wider pre-modern context. This inclusive approach worked extremely well in our previous seminars. We successfully attracted a balanced range of engaged scholars in both instances, and we aim to do so again in 2012.

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While living in Rome, every week we will explore surviving monuments of the ancient city and its environs, considering their symbolic representations and their function as anchors of different communications systems – political, religious, economic, administrative, and judicial. We will visit temples and public edifices built to showcase imperial power, museums to see the artifacts of communication, and archaeological sites to see where slaves, grain and olive oil were imported. A highlight at the end of Week 4 will be a two-day visit to Ravenna, where the empire's western center shifted in response to the formidable pressures which disrupted long-established networks during the fourth century. In our twice-weekly seminar meetings we shall read and discuss ancient writings and modern scholarship to gain further insight into Rome's communications web. Each week, too, emphasis will be placed on how the fruit of discussion can be brought "back to the classroom." By these means our seminar will create a network of its own among the participants, co-directors, distinguished guest speaker, and members of the Academy community. It will make a deep, widespread, and long-term impact on humanities teaching, published scholarship, and awareness in the U.S.

b. **Intellectual Rationale**

The city of Rome stood as the symbolic and practical center point of the ancient world's most successful and long-lived imperial system. The metropolis on the river Tiber anchored an array of communication networks of very different sorts – both concrete and abstract – that were foundational to the practice of its empire. They ranged from its famous roads for soldiers and the transport of goods and people, to the intangible ideas that traveled by the same means, including social and religious movements. Above all, these multiple networks were essential for the expression of imperial power and the practice of government. Latin-speaking administrators, judges, and tax-collectors traversed provinces stretching from the Atlantic all the way east to the

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Euphrates River, where Latin was known only to an educated few; representatives of city councils throughout the empire came to the capital with petitions; imperial messengers carried edicts from the palace; ambassadors traveled on missions to negotiate treaties in Germany, Africa, or Persia. Between them, the different routes of communication did not merely lead *from* Rome. They were also the conduits by which the outer regions of the empire came *to* Rome, and to one another, as people traveled on business of many sorts, carrying news and novel ideas about medicine, or divine worship, or art and literature. Routes and purposes differed, but such travelers permit us to see an empire that was constantly in motion. The city of Rome, therefore, was at the center of a cat's-cradle of interconnected, two-way streets. With their city as the hub (or central node), the Romans' multi-tiered communication networks bound the vast empire together. This complicated infrastructure on which it rested forms our seminar's focus.

Our topic is now attracting avid attention from scholars (as the quantity of very recent or forthcoming publications among our readings attests), but it has not been investigated before as a *unified phenomenon* in a Roman imperial context. To date, we know of no synoptic exploration of Rome's communication systems as a general phenomenon that brings current network theories into discussion, or that has aimed to involve scholars in other areas of pre-modern world history. The topic is fresh and exciting, therefore, and it addresses a range of themes that are only now being identified and developed. We view *communication* as a vehicle not just for the transmission of information, but also for the conduct of politics, religion, commerce and culture by individuals, groups, communities, and peoples. We treat patterns of *interconnectivity* based on Rome as historical phenomena, and we explore their growth and survival over long periods. Moreover, we view *networks* as historical phenomena that bear scrutiny as contingent and durable human constructs.

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Our seminar has four purposes overall. *First*, the participants will *gain new perspectives on the communication networks of the Roman empire*, and they will become aware of current developments in network and communication theory. With these fresh approaches applied within the fabric of the ancient city of Rome as it survives today, they will uncover the interrelationships of material culture and political ideology of empire, as well as the economic, social, and religious formations of a pre-modern empire at its very hub.

Second, the participants will expand and deepen their *firsthand understanding of the Roman empire in general and its capital in particular*. In this environment they may choose to focus their individual projects exclusively upon the city of Rome or upon its empire (or both); equally, they may relate the Roman experience to that of another empire.

Third, the participants will have the opportunity to develop *pedagogical ideas and methods* for bringing the material back home to disseminate productively in the classroom. The experience of both our previous NEH seminars has proven this to be among the most rewarding stimuli for the group – as attested by the attached evaluations of the 2006 seminar [**See Referees Attachment**], and by the participants' organization of conference panels during the year following each seminar to showcase new coursework devised on the basis of their time together in Rome.

Fourth, the seminar will generate invaluable and long-lasting *intellectual community* among all participants. This bonding will be seeded naturally, not just in site visits and seminar discussions, but also in more informal settings, particularly over dinner in the Academy courtyard and in subsequent animated conversation far into the night. Forging of intellectual community has been one of the most valued fruits of our previous seminars. It has transformed the depressing sense of isolation felt by many faculty with pre-modern interests who teach in smaller institutions.

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Post-seminar contact is maintained by email in particular, and lively, well attended participants' reunion dinners have been held at conferences year after year following our seminars.

c. Project content and implementation

The normal pattern for each week will be two half-day meetings for discussion on Monday and Thursday, and a full- or half-day site visit(s) on Tuesday. A two-day visit to Ravenna at the end of Week 4 represents a notable departure from the pattern. Ravenna is exceptionally important and rewarding for the seminar, but its distance from Rome and the wealth of sites in the city itself and nearby makes an overnight stay there unavoidable; participants will be fully forewarned about this visit. Readings listed here in connection with each discussion meeting are principal items only; a more detailed reading guide will be circulated to participants in advance.

Week 1 Creating the Center: Rome, Hub of Multiple Networks

Rome was not built in a day. It took centuries of conquest and integration for the city to become the center of the Mediterranean world, both practically (in terms of government and administration) and symbolically (in terms of definitions of identity, culture, place in history). The idea of Roman centrality and the networks that implemented it originated during the Republic – as Rome expanded to control the Mediterranean basin and its hinterlands – but they achieved their fullest expression during the empire. The long reign of the first Roman emperor, Augustus (31 BC-14 AD) was a watershed in these developments, and it is therefore a fitting focus for the first of the broad weekly 'case studies' around which our seminar takes shape. Inevitably, these are no more than five from many possible choices – some of which, at least, individual participants will make their own projects and communicate to the group.

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Meeting 1/1 Seminar introduction and overview; participants outline their projects

This opening meeting is the occasion for everyone to introduce their academic background and interests to the group; for the co-directors to share their broad vision and goals for the seminar; and for participants to outline the individual projects that they plan to develop during the five weeks. We also discuss a foundational text for the seminar, Augustus' own record of his achievements as he wished them to be remembered (*Res Gestae* in translation). Our site visits after this opening meeting are made to monuments of the Augustan period.

Reading: A. Cooley, Res Gestae Divi Augusti: *Text, Translation, and Commentary* (2009); P. R. Hardie, *Vergil's* Aeneid*: Cosmos and Imperium* (1986); C. Nicolet, *Space, Geography, and Politics in the Early Roman Empire* (1991)

Meeting 1/2 Networks of power and ideology: Rome as the center of Augustus' New Order; the emperor and his court

It was Augustus who established a *de facto* monarchy at Rome and rebuilt the city on a magnificent scale; he also brought into focus, and rearticulated, many of the communication networks which define our seminar. His reign, and the institutions that he revived or created, became the template for imperial action for centuries to come. He, more than anyone, made Rome the center of the empire. Our second meeting probes these achievements from various perspectives; it also discusses the relationship which Augustus' successors developed with their subjects, and the means by which they maintained it through the mid-third century.

Reading: Aelius Aristides, *To Rome/The Ruling Power* (trans. A. Behr [vol. 2, 1981]) ; J. E. Lendon, *Empire of Honour: The Art of Government in the Roman World* (1997); F. Millar, *The Emperor in the Roman World (31 BC – AD 337)* (with Afterword added, 1992); D. Potter and R.

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Talbert (eds.), *Classical Courts and Courtiers* (2011); P. Rehak, *Imperium and Cosmos: Augustus and the Northern Campus Martius* (2006); Suetonius, *The Caesars* (trans. D. W. Hurley, Hackett, 2011)

Visits: Forum Romanum (including senate house), Forum of Augustus; Ara Pacis, Mausoleum of Augustus, Obelisk.

Week 2 Rulers and Ruled: Cities and Administrative Networks

This week's case study is the interconnections between the imperial capital and the provinces at the level of government and urban public space. What were the nature and scope of such links? In particular, what impact did the exercise of Roman authority, and the sheer outsize might of the city, make upon provincial subjects? What drew them there? In part, our study directs its focus to the reign of Trajan in the early second century: exceptionally rich in testimony of different kinds, it furnishes a special window of opportunity to address these large questions.

Meeting 2/1 The provincial experiences of Paul, and of Pliny; Roman administration on trial

In this meeting we evaluate the surviving correspondence between a Roman senator, Pliny (the Younger), and Trajan, the emperor who sent him to govern the double province of Bithynia-Pontus; this dossier sheds unique light on the relationship between ruler in the field and ruled. In the same meeting, we examine the earlier encounters that Paul of Tarsus (a Roman citizen) had with Roman authority in the provinces, experience that culminates in his removal to Rome under escort for trial there. Also considered in this discussion are descriptions – again by Pliny – of prosecutions brought by provincials against ex-governors for misconduct in office (cruelty,

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bribery, and the like); these highly charged hearings occurred in the senate-house in Rome (visited by us in Week 1) during Trajan's reign.

Reading: Pliny the Younger, *Complete Letters* (trans. P. G. Walsh, 2006) 2.11 and 12, 3.4 and 9, 4.9, 5.20, 6.5 and 13 and 29, 7.6 and 33, 10.3a and 15 to the end; P. A. Stadter, "Pliny and the ideology of empire: the correspondence with Trajan," *Prometheus* 22 (2006) 61-76; R. Talbert, *The Senate of Imperial Rome* (1984), esp. ch. 16; id., "Senate, Roman," 209-13 in S. N. Katz (ed.), *The Oxford International Encyclopedia of Legal History* 5 (2009); id., "Emperor," 51-57 in M. Gagarin (ed.), *The Oxford Encyclopedia of Ancient Greece and Rome* 3 (2010).

Meeting 2/2 The idea of the city: interchanges with Rome, the metropolis

Both conceptually and architecturally, Roman civilization was centered upon a single city (Rome itself) and over time upon replicas of the ideal throughout the expanding empire. The degree of replication notably depended on whether a provincial city had pre-Roman origins or was founded by Rome. Our second meeting this week analyzes distinctive ideas of the city transmitted by Rome, in particular street layout, building-types, public space and its use. Prior to the meeting, we shall have visited the Colosseum in Rome itself, a quintessentially Roman structure that was highly influential in form, as well as in function for quintessentially Roman spectacles; we shall also have visited an entire Roman city, astonishingly well preserved, at Ostia.

Reading: C. Edwards and G. Woolf (eds.), *Rome the Cosmopolis* (2003), esp. chs. 1,10; R. Meiggs, *Roman Ostia* (ed. 2, 1973); P. Gros and M. Torelli, *Urbanism in the Roman World* (translation by J. Becker of 1994 Italian original, forthcoming 2012); K. Hopkins and M. Beard, *The Colosseum* (2005); D. Perring, "Spatial organization and social change in Roman towns," 273-93 in J. Rich and A. Wallace-Hadrill (eds.), *City and Country in the Ancient World* (1991)

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Visits: Colosseum; Ostia.

Week 3 Economic and Operational Networks: Resources and Costs of Empire

This week's meetings focus on the networks that enabled the vast empire to function, in particular by exploiting and moving resources. In the course of this third case study we consider Romans' spatial awareness of their empire, and their pride in it. We also weigh the damaging costs of networking caused, for example, by the spread of disease and by environmental harm such as over-hunting of animals for spectacles.

Meeting 3/1 Human, animal, vegetable, mineral: display, slave trade, disease

Our first meeting centers around Pliny the Elder's encyclopedic *Natural History*, and the recent re-interpretation of it as a triumphal celebration of Roman control of the world's resources, especially the exotic and unfamiliar. We take into account different 'costs' such as dependence on slaves imported from north and east of the empire, and the ravages of disease, especially malaria upon residents of the empire's greatest magnet and also (arguably) greatest death-trap, Rome itself. Also to be considered in this discussion are the nature, purpose and impact of the gigantic city-map of Rome, the so-called 'Marble Plan' (over 40 ft. tall) that visitors could view in a chamber of the Temple of Peace.

Reading: K. Bradley and P. Cartledge (eds.), *The Cambridge World History of Slavery*, vol. 1: *The Ancient Mediterranean World* (2011); N. Morley, "The salubriousness of the Roman city," 192-204 in H. King (ed.), *Health in Antiquity* (2005); id., *The Roman Empire: The Roots of Imperialism* (2010); T. Murphy, *Pliny the Elder's Natural History: The Empire in the Encyclopedia* (2004); Pliny the Elder, *Natural History: A Selection* (Penguin) [complete translation in Loeb edition]; W. Scheidel, "Germs for Rome," 158-76 in C. Edwards and G.

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Woolf (eds.), *Rome the Cosmopolis* (2003); J. Trimble, "Visibility and viewing on the Severan Marble Plan," 368-84 in S. Swain et al. (eds.), *Severan Culture* (2007), with the map itself at <http://formaurbis.stanford.edu>

Meeting 3/2 Tools for linkage: shipping, roads, maps

This second meeting is primarily concerned with infrastructure and its impact. It gains special inspiration from consideration of the design and role of Portus, the purpose-built imperial harbor of Rome, to which Trajan added a major extension. In recent years Portus has been the subject of intense investigation by an international team of archaeologists headed by our Guest Lecturer Prof. Simon Keay (University of Southampton, U.K.; **Appendix b**), who will lead a visit to the impressive remains there, in addition to joining our seminar discussion. Portus was an imperial statement as well as a functional facility. The same may be said of the roads that linked the far-flung regions of the sprawling empire: the roles and impact of these roads beyond the economic will be matter for our discussion. Roads in turn form a prominent feature of the one large surviving Roman map of the entire empire and beyond ('Peutinger Map'); we discuss whether there is symbolic meaning intentionally embedded in the design of this map too.

Reading: P. Arnaud, "Diocletian's Prices Edict: the prices of seaborne transport and the average duration of maritime travel," *Journal of Roman Archaeology* 20 (2007) 321-36; P. Barber and T. Harper, *Magnificent Maps: Power, Propaganda and Art* (2010); S. Keay and L. Paroli (eds.), *Portus and its Hinterland: Recent Archaeological Research* (2011), with <www.portusproject.org>; contributions by M. Maas and others in R. Talbert et al. (eds.), *Highways, Byways, and Road Systems in the Pre-Modern World* (forthcoming 2011); M. McCormick, *Origins of the European Economy: Communications and Commerce, AD 300-*

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900 (2001); R. Talbert, *Rome's World: The Peutinger Map Reconsidered* (2010), with the 22 ft-long map itself (Map A at <www.cambridge.org/9780521764803>)

Visits: Portus, Isola Sacra; Monte Testaccio, Museum of Roman Civilization (at EUR).

Week 4 Religious Networks

Religious expression was fully integrated into every aspect of life in the Roman world – from the most intensely personal worship to austere rituals of state and imperial power – and as such invites attention as our fourth case study. During the imperial period, the city of Rome was connected to many different sorts of religious networks that reflected the empire's extent and the diversity of its populations. Forms of religious expression were as mobile as they were diverse; religious networks across the empire linked communities, spread ideas, and fermented debate.

Meeting 4/1 Roman state religion (including imperial cult)

In our first meeting we consider how the religions of the Roman state – marked by celebration of the Capitoline Triad and by the worship of the emperor – served as connecting bonds that helped keep the empire together. Replicated in every city throughout the empire (though not organized or regulated from Rome), the religious celebrations connected with these forms of public devotion made the power of the distant city of Rome tangible. In a world without telecommunications, and in which most of the population was illiterate anyway, these rituals of power linked imperial cities and their various social strata to the center, and provided a reassuring – or menacing – reminder of the emperor's absolute authority. At the same time they furnished an opportunity for local power-elites to connect to the center, and for the majority of the population to understand the hierarchies of control that determined their lives. These forms of religious expression depended on the network of cities and the roads that connected them.

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Reading: C. Ando, *Imperial Ideology and Provincial Loyalty in the Roman Empire* (2000); M. Beard, S. Price, and J. North, *Religions of Rome:* vol. 1, *A History*, vol. 2, *A Sourcebook* (1998); S. R. F. Price, *Rituals and Power: The Roman Imperial Cult in Asia Minor* (1984); J. B. Rives, *Religion in the Roman Empire* (2007); J. Rüpke (ed.), *A Companion to Roman Religion* (2007); R. R. R. Smith, "*Simulacra gentium*: the *ethne* from the Sebasteion at Aphrodisias," *Journal of Roman Studies* 78 (1988) 50-77

Meeting 4/2 Religions from outside Rome (including Christianity, especially pilgrimage)

In addition to the imperial religions, the city of Rome was home to a multitude of other gods who had come from elsewhere, such as Isis, Mithras, or Christ. The first two of these three had no specific foreign home, but they were worshipped widely throughout the empire, providing a loose association of temples and priesthoods. Christianity differed because of its spiritual and scriptural links to the Holy Land. However, by the end of our period the city of Rome, where the Pope resided, had become the focus of new types of communication systems. In this meeting we examine only one in depth: how Rome became the symbolic center of the Christian Church, and thus a destination for pilgrimage. The faithful traveled to see relics and the churches where they were venerated; still today, the churches are a prominent feature of Rome's cityscape.

Reading: A. Collar, "Network theory and religious innovation," 144-57 in I. Malkin et al. (eds.), *Greek and Roman Networks in the Mediterranean* (2009); M. Goodman, *Rome and Jerusalem. The Clash of Ancient Civilizations* (2007); R. Krautheimer, *Rome: Profile of a City, 312-1308* (1980); R. A. Markus, *Christianity in the Roman World* (1974); L. Rutgers, *The Jews in Late Ancient Rome: Evidence of Cultural Interaction in the Roman Diaspora* (1998); M. Williams (ed.), *The Jews among the Greeks and Romans. A Diasporan Sourcebook* (1998); A. M. Yasin,

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Saints and Church Spaces in the Late Antique Mediterranean: Architecture, Cult, and Community (2009)

Visits: San Clemente; the Vatican and other martyr shrines and churches.

Week 5 Shifting the Center of the Networks: Rome, Constantinople, and Ravenna

In the Late Antique period (ca. 250-700) new centers of imperial power and communication developed in the Roman empire that finally displaced the primacy of the city of Rome. This "decentering" is the focus of our final case study. Although the city of Constantinople – the New Rome, inaugurated by the emperor Constantine in 324 – was to be the most important capital in the long term, others were created too, such as Ravenna, Trier, and Antioch. The emergence of these new centers caused a realignment of many of the communication networks examined in Weeks 1-4. Moreover, during the fifth century the western provinces of the empire, including most of Italy, were lost to imperial rule. The roads fell into disrepair; administrators developed different travel patterns; and trade routes shifted in the wake of a transformed political system.

Meeting 5/1 Alternatives to Rome: Constantinople, Ravenna

Our discussion considers the consequences of the shift of the imperial center to Constantinople and its associated communication networks as the empire's eastern and western halves drew apart. The effects are to be seen in the cityscape of Rome itself, as well as in the changing nature of the routes of communication that the city anchored. We focus on the transition to Constantinople and the story of Ravenna as an imperial capital in Italy.

Reading: Ammianus Marcellinus, *History (Res Gestae)* [complete translation in Loeb edition]; P. Brown, *The World of Late Antiquity from Marcus Aurelius to Muhammad* (1971); B. Croke,

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"Reinventing Constantinople: Theodosius I's imprint on the imperial city," 241-64 in S. McGill et al. (eds.), *From the Tetrarchs to the Theodosians: Later Roman History and Culture, 284-450 CE* (2010); J. Curran, *Pagan City and Christian Capital. Rome in the Fourth Century* (2000), esp. 116-57; D. M. Delyannis, *Ravenna in Late Antiquity* (2010); R. Krautheimer, *Three Christian Capitals: Topography and History* (1983); M. Maas, *Readings in Late Antiquity. A Sourcebook* (ed. 2, 2010); Procopius, *History of the Wars. The Gothic War* [complete translation in Loeb edition]; R. Van Dam, *Rome and Constantinople. Rewriting Roman History during Late Antiquity* (2010)

Meeting 5/2 Participants present final reports on their individual projects

Visits: Overnight trip [during weekend following Week 4] to Ravenna for S. Apollinare Nuovo, S. Vitale, mausoleum of Theoderic, walls, S. Apollinare in Classe.

d. **Project Faculty and Staff**

For both co-directors, this seminar's focus on communications represents a logical extension and development of the themes around which their two previous seminars were crafted. Those seminars probed ethnography and geography from a Roman perspective, as well as Romans' relations (including warfare) with peoples beyond their empire and the manner in which they were commemorated. It follows naturally to explore communications more fully next; the attempt to situate the theme in more than just a Roman context is both appropriate and bold. Once again, the combination of both co-directors' distinct but related areas of interest, as well as their complementary periods of expertise (Talbert, Early Empire; Maas, Late Empire), will prove uniquely valuable for ensuring a productive seminar.

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Richard Talbert [c.v. in **Appendix c**]: The relationship between the seminar topic and Talbert's own interests and accomplishments as scholar and teacher is a very close one. Communications featured among the aspects that he focused on when conducting a week-long Masterclass [for doctoral students nearing completion] at the invitation of the Netherlands National Research Council in Classical Studies in 2007. More recently, he and his Chapel Hill colleague, Fred Naiden on the Greek side have accepted a commission from Oxford University Press to plan and co-edit the *Oxford Handbook of Communications in the Classical World*, in which (as in the seminar) the topic is to be newly conceptualized and addressed in very broad terms. Further work where Talbert's current preoccupation with networking is central includes his monograph *Rome's World: The Peutinger Map Reconsidered* (2010), which reinterprets this astonishing survival as a highly creative projection of Roman power and ideology on a world scale. Networking is an equally vital component of two volumes now in press which Richard Talbert has co-edited and contributed to: *Classical Courts and Courtiers* (with David Potter); and *Highways, Byways and Road Systems in the Pre-Modern World* (with John Bodel and Susan Alcock). Mental mapping and networking are integral to work in progress by him (expected to be a major part of a further monograph) on Greek and Roman portable sundials. At UNC Chapel Hill his regular teaching includes a Roman history survey (a class of 270 in Spring 2011), and seminars at both undergraduate and graduate levels; recent seminar topics include "Arts of Roman Government" and "Travelers' Tales from the Ancient Mediterranean and Beyond." With Grant Parker, he is preparing a sourcebook for class use to be entitled *Travel in the Roman Mind.*

Michael Maas [c.v. in **Appendix d**] is Professor of History and Classical Studies at Rice University and Director of the B. A. Program in Ancient Mediterranean Civilizations. He

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currently serves as well as the Chair of the Managing Committee of the Intercollegiate Center for Classical Studies in Rome, the premier study abroad program in Italy for American undergraduates in Classics. He was Professor-in-Charge there in AY2005/06. A prize-winning teacher and holder of the Allison Sarofim Distinguished Teaching Professorship at Rice (AY2003/04), Maas is also a Fellow of the American Academy in Rome; Fellow of the Institute for Advanced Study, School of Historical Studies, Princeton; and Fellow of the Institute for Advanced Studies, Jerusalem. He has published many books and articles in his special field of Late Antiquity. His monograph *Exegesis and Empire in the Early Byzantine Mediterranean* (Mohr/Siebeck, 2003) explored the "migration" across the Mediterranean world – from Syria to North Africa – of methods of interpreting biblical texts and their political role in Justinian's effort to reestablish Roman power in the western provinces during the sixth century. He has published *The Cambridge Companion to the Age of Justinian* (2005), and *Readings in Late Antiquity: A Sourcebook* (ed. 2, 2010). Currently, with NEH support, he is completing a monograph *Roman Imperial Ethnography and the End of Antiquity*. He is also editor of *The Cambridge Companion to the Age of Attila* (forthcoming 2013), which takes as its narrative thread the fragmentation of the Roman empire in the fifth century and the re-articulation and re-purposing of lines of communication of many sorts. Maas' special interest in Roman roads and communication networks is demonstrated in a contribution (with Derek Ruths) "Road connectivity and the structure of ancient empires: a case study from Late Antiquity," in Talbert et al. (eds.), *Highways, Byways, and Road Systems in the Pre-Modern World* (in press).

Graduate assistant: An individual familiar with the Academy, fluent in Italian, and already based in Rome, will be sought to serve as assistant for the seminar. Under the supervision of the co-directors, s/he will prepare materials for the seminar, make arrangements for the

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group's visits, and handle day-to-day administrative matters in order to ensure that participants are able to derive the greatest possible gain from the seminar and its location.

Academy staff: As in past years, the Academy's Drue Heinz Librarian will consult with the co-directors well in advance to determine what specialist reference materials and books are needed for the seminar. In addition, as soon as participants arrive, she will provide guidance on the use of the Academy's Library and Photographic Archive. At the same time, to address the demand for electronic access at the Academy, a member of the Program Office staff will help participants to set up their laptops, email accounts and internet access; this staff member will also provide technical assistance to participants throughout their stay. In addition, they will support the smooth running of the program, in particular by obtaining any special permission required for visits to sites.

e. Participant selection

To attract participants drawn from a variety of fields is integral to the seminar's mission. In addition to teachers whose primary focus is the ancient Roman world, we are eager to engage colleagues whose interests can link the Roman experience with another time-period, region or culture (ideally an imperial one) in comparative perspective. The core of such interests might usefully be, for example, anthropology, art, archaeology, cartography, economics, epidemiology, government, language, network theory, religion, sociology, town planning. In addition to their own academic specializations, each of the sixteen participants is expected to be broadly acquainted with ancient Roman culture and history. Basic knowledge of relevant ancient and modern languages (especially Latin) is helpful, although not essential.

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The seminar will be advertised to attract the widest possible range of interested participants. The Academy has a website link that features its summer program offerings, including NEH summer seminars (see **Appendix e** for the website of 2011 offerings). Applicants will be able to download information and application forms via this link. The Academy will circulate information about the seminar to its 95 member institutions, and will also announce it at professional meetings. The seminar will be advertised, too, in professional newsletters, as well as on listservs for classics, history, and other disciplines (as above).

Applications will be reviewed and the participants selected by a committee of three, comprising the co-directors and Prof. Kerry Ward (History Dept., Rice University), author of *Networks of Empire: Forced Migration in the Dutch East India Company* (2009).

f. Institutional Context

For a seminar centered upon ancient Rome and its empire, there just is no better location than the city of Rome itself, nor is there any adequate substitute to being there on the spot. For the participants to explore (and photograph) so many sites of fundamental importance over a five-week period, as well as to visit museums with collections of equal significance, will be hugely beneficial to both their research and teaching for the rest of their careers. As co-directors of two previous NEH seminars in Rome, we can unequivocally confirm the formative impression made upon participants; the attached evaluations from our 2006 seminar articulate the point with equal vigor. Moreover, as it happens, we have had cause to inspect other locations worth considering in principle for seminars such as ours. All fall short, and not just because their ancient remains and museums are less rich than those in Rome and its vicinity. Their main drawback, rather, is that at none does there exist an institution to match the array of

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resources offered by the American Academy in Rome [see **Appendix f**]. In practice, for a professor or graduate student coming direct from the U.S., in many cases with no prior experience of Italy, even five weeks is a relatively brief study period. To make best use of their opportunity and of federal support, it is vital that all seminar participants are enabled to launch fully into their program immediately on arrival. The American Academy in Rome makes this prospect a certainty.

The Academy is a major center for humanities research, and has hosted a NEH summer seminar almost every year since 1977. Its superb and beautiful complex offers residential and dining facilities, an extensive garden, meeting rooms and lounge, and computer links; it is situated in an attractive part of Rome, outside the center but with easy access to it. Participants will be offered comfortable accommodation in the Academy at competitive rates.[1] There is an invaluable Photographic Archive, but undoubtedly for seminar participants the greatest boon is the Library: it contains over 140,000 volumes, and is also a member of URBS, an association of research libraries in Rome which share a common catalog. Most of the Library collection is on the open shelf, and as Academy residents all seminar participants enjoy access to it on a 24-hour basis, an extraordinary privilege and opportunity. For anglophones who study Rome and its empire, there is perhaps no single better library anywhere in the world. All books and articles prescribed for the seminar will be placed in a special reserve in the Library.

The Academy provides a unique and stimulating intellectual community. It operates a fellowship program for artists and scholars in a broad spectrum of disciplines including art, archaeology, architecture, history, literature, and music. Seminar participants will be part of

[1] Currently (at Feb. 2011 euro/US$ exchange rates), single room + private bath $595 per week, + shared bath $455.

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this larger community. A welcome reception will be held for them within the first week, and they will enjoy every chance to benefit from (and contribute to) the community's exchange of ideas and perspectives across disciplines. Seminar participants will be able (and strongly encouraged) to take their meals together with the co-directors and the other members of the community. In our view as co-directors, the disappointment at not experiencing integration into the Academy community expressed by a participant or two in the 2006 seminar evaluations is perhaps more a reflection of individual temperament than of any lack of effort on the Academy's part. We can attest to the depth of the Academy's commitment to integrating seminar participants as fully as possible into its community. Its meals, moreover, are now celebrated for their high quality and their use of organic ingredients.

Residence in Rome for five weeks invites the opportunity to explore far more museums and sites than the group is able to visit together as part of the seminar program. Public transport in Rome and environs is excellent, and the bus pass which each participant will receive makes its use free at any time; each participant is also to be equipped with a pass that gives free entry to most museums and sites. The co-directors will be more than happy to share their extensive accumulated knowledge of the many rewarding museums and sites that can illuminate the seminar's theme. Michael Maas' year-long experience as professor-in-charge of an intensive study program based in Rome renders him especially well informed in this respect. Other members of the Academy community will be able to give up-to-date advice too. Last but not least, it should be underlined that for its visit to Portus the group will have the unique privilege of expert leadership by Prof. Simon Keay, whose ongoing work there over several years has transformed understanding of this exceptionally important and by no means easily accessible Roman harbor site.

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The American Academy in Rome
A Leading Center for Advanced Research and Independent Study in the Arts and Humanities

(July 2010)—A leading center for independent study and research in the arts and humanities – the **American Academy in Rome** – offers support, time and an inspiring environment to some of America's most gifted artists and scholars. Recipients of a variety of fellowships and residencies, including the coveted Rome Prize, pursue their work in the environment of a historic setting on the Janiculum, the highest hill within the walls of Rome.

The Academy is a private institution supported by gifts from individuals, foundations, corporations and government agencies and by the annual membership of many distinguished colleges and universities in the United States. Established in 1894 by famed architect Charles Follen McKim as the American School of Architecture, the Academy assumed its present name in 1897 and its present composition in 1913 when it merged with the American School of Classical Studies in Rome. The Academy first offered fellowships in painting and sculpture in 1897. In 1994, in honor of the Academy's centennial, the president of the United States signed a joint resolution of Congress in recognition of the Academy's contribution to the intellectual and cultural life of the nation.

The Academy offers Rome Prize fellowships to approximately 30 Americans annually for periods ranging from six months to two years. Selected by juries made up of distinguished artists and scholars, there have been 1,800 men and women Fellows (FAAR) since 1894. Rome Prize winners are provided with stipends, studies or studios, and room and board. The competition attracts applications from as many as 1,000 artists, architects, design professionals, composers, writers, and scholars. Fellowship disciplines include architecture, design, historic preservation and conservation, landscape architecture, literature, musical composition, visual arts, ancient, medieval, Renaissance, and early modern and modern Italian studies.

Several recipients of prizes and fellowships other than the Rome Prize reside at the Academy and participate in its programs, forming a community of over 100 individuals. These affiliated fellowships include: the American Academy in Rome/Scuola Normale Superiore di Pisa Exchange Fellowship,the American Academy in Rome Affiliated Fellowships for Italian Artists, the ACLS/Frederick Burkhardt Residential Fellowships for Recently Tenured Scholars, the Oscar Broneer Traveling Fellowship, the Burnham Prize of the Chicago Architectural Club, the Mellon East-Central European Visiting Scholars Program, the Raissiz/de Palchi Traveling

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Fellowship of The Academy of American Poets, the Joseph Brodsky Memorial Fellowship, the Cynthia Hazen Polsky/Metropolitan Museum of Art Visiting Curator Award, and the Regional Research Program of the Council of American Overseas Research Centers.

Each year since 1948, six to eight senior artists and scholars are invited to live as Residents at the Academy for periods of two to four months. During that time they pursue their own work, serve as informal mentors to the Fellows, and present their work to the Academy community in lectures, concerts, and exhibitions. In the years of the program's existence, approximately 400 men and women have been Residents of the American Academy in Rome (RAAR).

The Academy also sponsors exhibitions, concerts, lectures, symposia and other events, as well as a Summer Program in Archaeology, Howard Comfort, FAAR'29, Summer Program in Pottery Studies , Classical Summer School, and subject to funding, a Summer Seminar sponsored by the National Endowment for the Humanities. The Academy supports archaeological research, excavation, and conservation projects intended to advance both scholarship and training. The Academy's distinguished tradition in archaeology dates from the early twentieth century.

The Academy's Arthur and Janet C. Ross Library is a research library of over 140,000 volumes in the fields of classical studies and the history of art and architecture, and a Photographic Archive of more than 70,000 images including the Fototeca Unione, founded by Ernest Nash with the donation of his own collection. This collection is jointly administered by the Academy and the International Union of Institutes of Archaeology, History and History of Art in Rome. The Barbara Goldsmith Rare Book Room, designed by Michael Graves, FAAR'62, RAAR'79, was dedicated in June 1996.

The Academy publishes scholarly works and exhibition catalogues. For more than 80 years, the Academy has produced two series of scholarly publications, *Memoirs of the American Academy in Rome* and *Papers and Monographs*. In 1993 it began a series, *Monuments of Papal Rome*, published by Cambridge University Press. In addition the Academy produces catalogues for many of its art exhibitions. The Academy also supports a full schedule of lectures, symposia, concerts, readings and exhibitions in both Rome and the United States. Among recent exhibitions are Cy Twombly, 8 sculptures (1998); Maya Lin (1998); Joel Shapiro (1999); Richard Serra: Weight and Measure Drawings (1999); The Panza di Biumo Collection: Works from the 80s and 90s (2000); *M*ichael Mazur – Graphic Works 1992-2000, L'Inferno di Dante (2000); Alex Katz – Edward Ruscha (2001); Steven Holl (2001-2002); Chuck Close: Ritratti (2002), Georgina Masson Author and Eye (2003), Rome Collects: Contemporary Italian Art from Public and Private Collections *(2004), S*pellbound by Rome, the Anglo-American Community in Rome (1890-1914) and the Founding of the Keats-Shelley House *(2005), and Steps Off the Beaten Path: 19th Century Photographs of Rome and its Environs (2007).*

The 130-room main building, designed by McKim, Mead & White, contains residential accommodations, studios and studies, a darkroom and computer room as well as the library, exhibition gallery, archaeology lab and administrative offices. The Villa Aurelia, an Italian

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landmark and one of the Academy's prized buildings, was built by a Farnese cardinal in the 17th century, and provides the Academy with spaces for formal presentations of music, art, and scholarship as well as for receptions and dinners and the overnight lodging of special guests.

The Academy's 50-member Board of Trustees includes William B. Hart, Chairman Chair, and Paul LeClerc, Chair, Executive Committee; Adele Chatfield-Taylor, FAAR'84, is President, and Christopher S. Celenza, FAAR'94, is Director.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 8, 2010

AMERICAN ACADEMY IN ROME NOW TAKING APPLICATIONS FOR THE ROME PRIZE

The American Academy in Rome is pleased to announce that it is currently taking applications for the Rome Prize. The Rome Prize is awarded annually to a select group of approximately thirty artists and scholars in the early or middle stages of their careers. Rome Prize Fellowships are offered in categories such as Ancient Studies, Archaeology, Architecture, Design, Historic Preservation and Conservation, Landscape Architecture, Literature, Medieval Studies, Musical Composition, Visual Arts, Early Modern Studies, and Modern Italian Studies. Fellows are selected through an open competition that is juried by distinguished peers in the fellowship fields.

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Rome Prize winners are invited to Rome to pursue their work independently in an atmosphere conducive to intellectual and artistic freedom, interdisciplinary exchange, and innovation. For periods that range from six months to two years, recipients are provided with stipends, residential accommodation, meals, and studies or studios to pursue their work. Rome Prize recipients are the core of the Academy's residential community, which also includes Residents, Affiliated Fellows, and Visiting Artists and Scholars.

The application deadline is 1 November 2010 with an extended deadline of November 15 for an additional fee. For more information regarding the Rome Prize, please visit www.aarome.org.

PRESS QUERIES:
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THE AMERICAN ACADEMY IN ROME

Established in 1894 and chartered by an Act of Congress in 1905, the American Academy in Rome is a leading center for independent studies and advanced research in the arts and humanities. Situated on the Janiculum, the highest hill within the walls of Rome, the Academy today remains a private institution supported by gifts from individuals, foundations, corporations, and the memberships of colleges, universities, and arts and cultural organizations as well as by grants from the National Endowment for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Humanities. Each year, through a national competition, the Rome Prize is awarded to approximately thirty individuals working in Ancient, Medieval, Renaissance and Early Modern, or Modern Italian Studies, Architecture, Landscape Architecture, Design, Historic Preservation and Conservation, Literature, Musical Composition, and Visual Art. The application deadline is November 1st. The Academy community also includes a select group of Residents, distinguished artists and scholars invited by the Director. For more information please visit www.aarome.org.

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The Library

Background

Completely renovated in 2006/07, the Arthur and Janet C. Ross Library of the American Academy in Rome contains over 140,000 volumes in the fields of classical studies and the history of art and architecture. Especially strong are the collections in ancient Mediterranean archaeology and art, Greek and Latin literature, ancient topography (including the history of the city of Rome), ancient religions, and related fields such as epigraphy, numismatics and papyrology. There is a good working collection in the history of art and architecture, especially Italian. The rare book collection comprises chiefly 16th-18th century imprints in classical studies, archaeology, art and architecture, including sizeable collections of Roman guidebooks and early art treatises. The Library also houses small but noteworthy collections in contemporary art and architecture, landscape architecture, Italian history and literature, American literature, historical travel books and music.

The Library acquires ca. 2,000 volumes per year and subscribes to approximately 600 current periodicals. Preference is given to scholarly publications in the core subjects listed above. A special priority is given to publications from the United States, in the conviction that the Academy has a responsibility to represent the best of American scholarship to Rome's multinational community. Italian local and regional publications in the Library's main fields – often difficult to obtain in the United States – are another acquisitions priority. The Library welcomes gifts, especially the publications of its Fellows and readers. There is an active Friends of the Library program on both sides of the Atlantic.

The Library is open-stack and contains working space for approximately 90 persons. The heart of the Library is the Arthur Ross Reading Room, with handsome wooden shelving and furniture designed by McKim, Mead & White. Complementing it are the Linda Bettman Reference Room and the new Frank Brown Study Room, The Barbara Goldsmith Rare Book Room, designed by Michael Graves, FAAR'60, RAAR'79 and Buonanno Folio Reading Room. The collections range over five stack levels in the main building and a compact storage unit next door. New reading rooms were created as part of the 2006/07 restoration and are located on the mezzanines and in the basement (cryptoporticus).

Another significant resource is the Academy's Photographic Archive, which contains valuable documentation of Roman monuments, as well as a record of the work of past Rome Prize Fellows. The Academy's institutional archives are divided among several institutions in the United States and Italy.

Books do not circulate outside the confines of the Academy. The Library offers self-service photocopiers, microform readers, a photographic copy stand and high-speed computer connections. Users may bring laptops for their research.

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Over 60 readers use the Library every day. The main users of the Library are the Fellows and Residents of the American Academy, but reading passes are also issued to Italian scholars, qualified Roman residents, and Visiting Artists and Scholars. Persons applying for a reading pass are generally expected to have a graduate degree and to bring a letter of introduction, but exceptions are made for the use of publications not available elsewhere.

The Academy is a founding member of URBS, the Unione Romana Biblioteche Scientifiche (Union of Scholarly Libraries in Rome), and contributes to its online URBS union catalogue. The American Academy in Rome is also a member of the Research Libraries Group (RLG), now part of OCLC (Online Computer Library Center), and participates in its SHARES program. The Library's holdings are also available in Worldcat and are also contributed to DLIR, the Digital Library for International Research.

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The Photographic Archive

Incorporating the Fototeca Unione, founded by Ernest Nash

The Photographic Archive of the American Academy in Rome consists of several valuable and specialized collections of photographs on archaeology, architecture and art, as well as landscape architecture and gardens. It also includes special collections important to the history of the Academy.

All these collections have artifactual value for the history of photography, as well as documentary value for the study and research of their specific subject. Some of the collections have a particular historical and archaeological significance because the photographs record excavations and monuments from the early years of modern archaeology.

The photograph collections of the American Academy have been acquired over the years mainly through donations. They represent an exceptional document of the activity of considerable personalities, master photographers as well as scholars, active from the second half of the 19th century (Parker collection), to the beginning of the 20th century (Moscioni, Van Deman and Askew collections), and more recently (Masson and Bini collections). In recent years (2002-2007) the Academy has accepted new gifts, such as the Vermeule collection (Greek and Roman antiquities), the Aronson collection (aerial views of Rome), the Knauer collection (monumental sites in the Mediterranean area and in Northern Europe), the McCann collection (Cosa port excavations and excavations at Pyrgi and Populonia), and the Ludwig collection (Reinassance marble tomb reliefs).

Other special collections include the Berman collection of scenography and theater costume design. The Fellows' Work collection is of great value for the Academy's institutional history; as it documents the individual and collaborative projects of Fellows and Visitors in the School of Fine Arts at the American Academy in Rome (1910-1958). Contemporary photography is represented by an exceptional gift: the architect Toshiko Mori and architectural photographer Paul Warchol donated seven photographs depicting the House on the Gulf of Mexico II, Casey Key (FL). Toshiko also donated a suite of photographs by Abigail Cohen.

In addition to its own collections, the American Academy also houses the Fototeca Unione founded by Ernest Nash in 1957. The Fototeca Unione began with the donation of Nash's own archive to the International Union of Institutes of Archaeology, History and History of Art. It is a growing collection focusing on the architecture and topography of the Roman world.

Individual images of the Masson, Parker, and Gatteschi collections are available in digital form on our website.

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