Antonios Augoustakis

Book Project: Statius’ Thebaid Book 8: Text, Translation, Commentary
(Classics / Arts and Sciences)

I have been awarded the status of Visiting Scholar at the University of Oxford to spend the Fall 2008 Michaelmas term at Corpus Christi College, working on my new book project, an edition of Statius’ Thebaid Book 8. In particular, I have undertaken the first edition with an English translation and commentary of the eighth book of Statius’ Thebaid (ca. 81-92 CE). The last commentary on the eighth book of the poem was produced by C. Barth in 1664, and since that time little work has been done on this individual book. As a long-needed edition, this commentary will become instrumental for the expansion of studies in Flavian epic, an area of poetics that has already attracted and will continue to attract more attention in the future. Editing a text with commentary in Classical studies is a difficult and long process. The editor must first collate the Latin manuscripts, often hard to locate, and then consult editions of other Classical authors that date back to the sixteenth century. Access to the Bodleian and Sackler Libraries at Oxford University will make this first phase of my project immensely easier. I will be able to complete work on establishing the Latin text and English translation and begin working on the commentary. At Oxford, I will have the opportunity and honor to work with Dr. Stephen Harrison, Professor of Classical Languages and Literature at Corpus Christi College.