

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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AMERICAN ACADEMY IN ROME SELECTS PROFESSOR KIMBERLY BOWES AS NEXT ANDREW W. MELLON PROFESSOR



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NEW YORK, 3 January 2012—The American Academy in Rome is pleased to announce that Roman archaeologist Kimberly Bowes, FAAR'06 has been appointed to a three-year term as the Andrew W. Mellon Professor-in-Charge of the School of Classical Studies at the American Academy in Rome. Her appointment begins 1 July 2012.

In announcing the Search Committee's decision, Academy President Adele Chatfield-Taylor, FAAR'84 commented: *"We are delighted that Kimberly has been selected as the next Mellon Professor. She will bring great energy, intelligence and expertise to the Mellon professorship and will be a wonderful addition to the leadership in Rome."*

Academy Director Christopher S. Celenza, FAAR'98 stated: *"I am thrilled that Kimberly Bowes will join us in Rome. Together with Andrew Heiskell Arts Director Karl Kirchwey, our team will continue to build on the Academy's intellectual and cultural offerings and on the substantial, indeed transformative, contributions made over the last three years by her predecessor, Professor T. Corey Brennan. An innovative classical archaeologist, Kim takes a truly interdisciplinary approach to her scholarship and has a proven track record of success teambuilding and obtaining fundraising for important projects. She will undeniably provide our Fellows in the humanities with exceptional guidance."*

Professor Bowes comes to the Academy from the University of Pennsylvania, where she is currently associate professor in the Department of Classics. Prior to arriving at Penn in 2010, she taught Greek, Roman and Late Roman Archaeology for three years in the Classics Department at Cornell University.

Her areas of specialization are late Roman archaeology and art history, early Christian archaeology, and

AMERICAN ACADEMY IN ROME

ancient economics. Bowes's most recent scholarly publication entitled *Houses and Society in the Later Roman Empire* (Duckworth Press 2010), is a fresh interpretation on the elite houses of the third to sixth centuries AD, which have been read as material symptoms of Rome's decline. Bowes argues that rather than relics of a decadent, hierarchical world, these houses bespeak a competitive elite society, one set in motion by the socio-economic reforms of Diocletian, Constantine and their successors.

She is co-director of the Roman Peasant Project in Tuscany and the Philosophiana Archaeological Project in Sicily. She also has co-edited two books and authored numerous articles and chapters, on topics that range from the economic collapse and recovery of the Roman Empire to early Christian archaeology. Currently, she is engaged in a project on poverty in the Roman world.

A native of Big Moose, New York, Bowes graduated from Williams College with a BA in 1992, from the Courtauld Institute of Arts in 1993 with a MA, and from Princeton with a PhD in 2002. In 2005 Bowes received the Dorothy and Lewis B. Cullman Post-Doctoral Fellowship in Ancient Studies at the American Academy in Rome.

Kimberly Bowes succeeds Professor T. Corey Brennan, FAAR'85 of Rutgers University as Mellon Professor at the American Academy in Rome. Bowes stated of her appointment at the Academy:

"The American Academy in Rome is one of America's oldest and most important intellectual and cultural ambassadors, and its work is particularly important in these difficult times when culture is too easily forgotten. It is a true honor to join the Academy and be part of its mission."

Kimberly Bowes was chosen for the Mellon Professorship from a large field of outstanding candidates. The Search Committee was comprised of Academy Trustees Professor C. Brian Rose, FAAR'92, RAAR'11, and Professor Anthony Grafton, RAAR'04, as well as Director Christopher S. Celenza and President Adele Chatfield-Taylor.

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 study 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; modern Italian studies; architecture, landscape architecture, design, historic preservation and conservation; literature; musical composition; and visual arts. The annual application deadline is 1 November. The Academy community also includes a select group of Residents, distinguished artists and scholars invited by the Director, as well as Affiliated Fellows, and Visiting Artists and Scholars. For more information please visit: www.aarome.org