STUDIORUM CLASSICORUM ET LINGUAE LATINAE LAUDATIO

Supermagistri dignissimi, professores venerabiles, discipuli sodales, cives viri et feminae,

Administrators most worthy, professors venerable, students fellow, gentlemen & ladies,

Salvete Omnes! Gratias vobis ago pro adventu vestro hac nocte. Ego sum modesta mente

Hello All! Thanks to you I give for coming your this evening. I am humbled

ob praesentiam omnium vestrum. Conabor habere orationem tempore tuo dignam. Horas

by the presence of each and every one of you. I shall try to deliver an oration of your time worthy. Hours

multas et multos menses cogito ad scribendam orationem novam et propriam. Quamquam

many and many months I have thought about writing my speech new and my own. Although

ego sum semper discipulus linguae Latinae, contendam summis viribus ut faciam antiquos

I am always a student of the Latin language, I shall strive with utmost strength to make the ancient

Romanos superbos et laetos hac nocte, in hoc Parvo Theatro toga candida indutus et

Romans proud and happy this evening, in this Little Theater, in a splendid toga garbed and

togatus senatori Romano similis. Sine mora velim invocare Musas omnipotentes. Utinam

dressed a-Roman-Senator-like. Without delay I would like to call upon the Muses almighty.

loquatur certe lingua mea, utinam mea vox ferat celeriter, utinam resonent mea verba

Let my tongue speak truly, let my voice carry quickly, let my words resonate

trans nervos spatii temporisque hodie et cras et per omnia saecula. Felix fortunatus sit

across the sinews of space and time today and tomorrow and all eternity. Happy (and) fortunate be

eventus.

the outcome.

Hac nocte hoc concilium non convocavi ut ostentationes frivoles Latinae linguae facerem,

This evening this assembly I have not called forth to make frivolous displays of the Latin language,

sed potius ut orationem magni momenti in re gravi facerem. Cum fuisset facillimum me

but rather an oration of great moment on a serious topic to make. Although it would have been very easy

alibi oculos vertere, facillimum me deligere de alia re disserere, facillimum me referre

for me to turn my eyes elsewhere, very easy for me to choose discuss another topic, very easy for me

chartulis papyri ultimum consilium, eligo tamen aliter. Virilis enim fortitudino habenda

to put on sheets of paper my final project, I however choose otherwise. For a brave man must have

est viro forti qui consistat pro inermibus. Aliquo viro forti contra actiones perfidas

manly bravery to stand up for the defenseless. Some brave man against actions treacherous

loquendum est. Necesse est meminisse occisorum.

must speak. Necessary it is to remember those cut down.

Solum anno priore linguae peregrinae rapiebantur, cingebantur, trucidabantur,

Only last year foreign languages were grabbed, cornered, cut to pieces,

iugulabantur inclementer intempesta nocte. Impetus celer offerebat nihil temporis

butchered mercilessly in the dead of night. The attack swift offered no time

ad defendendum et certe nihil ad dolendum. Gallica, Germanica, Graeca, Romana,

to defend and certainly none to grieve. French, German, Greek, Roman, (and)

Hispana sanguis adhuc inquinat manus administrationis. Nullum verbum publicum

Spanish blood still stains the hands of the adminminstration. No official word

ad discipulos accessit priusquam corpora linguarum peregrinarum iacebant frigida

(to) students reached before bodies of foreign languages were lying cold

exanima in sarcophagis sepulta alta in mausoleo appellato Curia Occidentalis.

spirit-less in sarcophagi buried deep in the mausoleum called West Hall.

Honorabo laudabo decorabo occisas linguas inferas. Possum facere

I shall honor, I shall praise, I shall embellish the fallen languages in the lower world. I can do

nihil melius ad has nobilissimas linguas honorandas quam beneficia exponere

nothing better for these very noble languages to be honored than benefits to explain

linguarum pereginarum studii.

of foreign language study.

Marcus Montzuckeris, auctor Libri Facialis, in pecuniis natans et olim discipulus Latinae

Mark Zuckerberg, founder of Face Book, in money swimming and former student of Latin

et Graecae, praestitit studiis linguarum classicarum et pereginarum per totam altam

and Greek, excelled in studies of languages classical and foreign all throughout high

scholam. Legere poterat linguam Gallicam et Hebraïcam et Latinam et Graecam. Dum in

school. To read he was able French and Hebrew and Latin and Greek. While in

universitate studens saepe notus erat ob versus Iliados Homeri recitandos.

university as a student often he was known for verses-of-Homer's-Iliad- reciting.

J K Rowlinga vehementius Gallicam et Latinam et Graecam in universitate studebat.

J. K. Rowling with a passion French and Latin and Greek in university studied.

Omnis lector librorum Pilosus Figulus momentum clarum linguarum classicarum in

Every reader of the books Hairy Potterymaker the clear influence of the classical languages in

opibus eius videre potest.

her works to see is able.

Gulielmus Portae, auctor MicroMollis, erat discipulus Latinae et Graecae Antiquae in

Bill Gates, founder of MicroSoft, was a student of Latin and Ancient Greek in

schola alta. Hodie sedet super montem pecuniarum attendentium paene octoginta

high school. Today he sits upon a mountain of wealth reaching almost eighty

milia deciens centenorum milium dollarium.

billion dollars.

Haec nomina sunt solum tria. Tabula discipulorum linguae peregrinae qui felices et

These names are only three. The list of students of foreign language who prosperous &fortunate

fortunati fuerunt est fere infinita. Cum esset certe stultum attribuere omnes felicitates et

have been is almost infinite. Although it would be certainly foolish to attribute all happiness and

prosperitates studio linguarum peregrinarum, aeque stultum esset dimittere statim et

success to the study of foreign languages, it would be just as foolish to dismiss immediately and

ominio pondus potens. Causa rationalis et prudens est homines studere linguis

altogether their powerful weight. There is a rational and prudent reason that people study foreign

peregrinis milia iam annorum. Causa rationalis et prudens est conditores patriae nostrae

language for thousands of years. There is a rational and prudent reason that the founders of our nation

studium Graeciae et Roma praeponere omnibus aliis. Causa rationalis et prudens est

the-study-of –Greece-and-Rome placed ahead of everything else. There is a rational and prudent reason

studium linguae peregrinae esse materiam exactam et postulatam in fere omnibus altis

that the study of foreign language is a subject required and requested in almost all high

scholis et innumerabilibus collegiis et universitatibus. Incipiam igitur explicatationem

schools and in innumerable eolleges and universities. I shall begin therefore an explanation

beneficorum nonnullorum quae studium linguae peregrinae offert.

of the benefits considerable which the study of foreign language offers.

Principalia duo beneficia deducta e studio languarum peregrinarum sunt auctus facultatis

The two principal benefits derived from the study of foreign languages are an increase of capacity-

mentalis et auctus perspicientiae culuralis. Neutra postulatio est res novae. Nam liberi

mental and an increase of awareness-cultural. Neither claim is revolutionary ("new things"). For kids

semper eunt ad scholam ad discendum et ad crescendum. Studium linguae si perfecisset et

always go to school for learning and for developing. The study of language, if it had achieved and

effecisset nihil, evanuisset e scholis multo antea. Pro hominibus spectantibus numeralia

effected nothing, would have vanished from schools long ago. For persons looking at numerical

data et chartas expansas, multitudo studiorum conducta est ad quaerendum si studium

data and sheets-spread, a multitude of studies has been conducted for identifying if the study

linguae peregrinae augeret facultatem mentalem. Aspicite, o viri et feminae honorabiles,

of foreign language increases capacity-mental. Glance, honorable men and women,

tergum libelli, ubi perscripsi solum pauca haec studia, quae demonstrant altiores summas

at the back of your program, where I have written only a few of these studies, which show higher grades

in examinibus regulatis et normalibus, altiores notas collegiales, altior auctus undularum

on exams regulated and standardized, higher grades in college, higher increase of waves

cerebralium.

of the brain.

Omnes discipuli linguarum peregrinarum possunt testari novitatem et contentionem quas

All students of foreign language can attest to the strangeness and strain which

studium primo imponit cerebro. Certe equidem possum in memoriam revocare nullam

the study at first imposes on the brain. Certainly for my part I can (to memory) recall no

aliam disciplinam quae tantum impactum vel certamen in cerebrum mihi habebat.

other discipline that such an impact or challenge on-my-brain-had.

Studium linguae peregrinae offert varietatem et singularitatem quae non possunt effici

The study of foreign language offers a variety and uniqueness which cannot be achieved

memoria factorum antiquorum vel formulis mathematicis discendis. In animo non habeo

by memorizing historical facts or formulas-mathematical-learning. I do not have in mind

esse insolens, nam disciplinae aliae academicae multum valent et dignitatem habent sed

to be flippant, for disciplines-other-academic much value have and worth, but

postremo studium linguarum peregrinarum non potest substitui.

ultimately the study of foreign languages has no substitute.

Quod linguae et cultura sunt circumplicatae et implicatae, studium culturarum per aliis

Because languages and culture are intertwined, the study of cultures through other

disciplinis inceptum haud omnino idem est. Professor et doctor princeps prior

disciplines undertaken not altogether is the same. A professor and doctor, the former head of the

societatis linguarum recentium optime breviter repetivit singularitatem studii linguarum

Association of Languages-Modern best briefly summarized the uniqueness of study of foreign

peregrinarum, "Quamquam discipulus potuit adquirere iudicia culturarum aliarum per

languages. "Although a student could acquire insights into other cultures through

artem musicam vel artes elegantes, quamquam peregrinatus est longe et late, non

music or fine arts, although he traveled abroad far and wide, he has not

expertus est recte culturam diversam symbolis dictis et scriptis quibus singulariter se

experienced directly a culture-diverse through symbols spoken and written by which uniquely

profert in lucem."

it reveals itself ('brings itself to light')."

Fortasse cogitatis, quid de anthropologia? Nonne studium anthropologiae

Perhaps you are thinking, what about anthropology? Does the study of anthropology

judicium culturale auget? Ita vero. Sed memorandum semper est, discipulos discere modis

evaluation-cultural not increase? Yes indeed. But it must always be remembered, students learn by means

et viis variis. Puer ad linguas peregrinas docilis est fortasse non ad anthropologiam docilis

and by ways different. A child receptive to foreign languages is perhaps not to anthropology receptive

vel vice versa.

or vice versa.

Praeterea anthropologia vel aliud stadium non potest offerre beneficium

Furthermore anthropology or another study is not able to offer the benefit

utilissimum et aptissium ad communicandum inter homines qui duas linguas dissimiles

very useful and very practical for communicating between people who two different languages-

natales loquuntur. Itaque complures disciplinae (e.g. anthropolgia et historia

native speak. Therefore a number of disciplines (exempli gratia, anthropology and history)

omnes commendant et saepe poscunt ut discipuli linguis peregrinis studeant. Ita,

all recommend and often require that their students study foreign languages. Thus,

quamquam stadium linguae peregrinae praecipue oppugnatur, omnes disciplinae

although the study of foreign language especially is being attacked, all disciplines

detrimentum capient propter absentiam.

damage-will-take because of their absence.

Spectate, magistri et sodales, ad consilia studiorum exterorum ut damnum videatis.

Look, professors and colleagues, at programs of studies abroad that you may see the damage.

Consilium exterum dignum continetur disciplinam linguae regionis. Haec consilia

A program abroad worthwhile incorporates the learning of the local language. These programs

vehementer habent linguam non solum pro beneficiis animi et culturae sed etiam pro

emphatically have language not only for benefits of the mind and culture but also for

salutate et itinere et otio. Nunc discipuli Riponenses qui volunt studium exterum debebunt

safety and travel and leisure. Now Ripon students who want study abroad will have to

discere linguas peregrinas omnes ipsi domi et privatim. Quamquam hoc licet,

learn all foreign languages themselves at home and individually. Although this is possible,

formidolosum certe negotium est pro discipulo mediocri ullius universitatis. Praeterea cives

formidable certainly is the task for an average student of any university. Furthermore, citizens

Riponenses, cogitate de praemiis et utilitatibus studii peregrini in quo discipulus linguam

of Ripon, think about the rewards and usefulness of study-foreign in which a student the language

dicit. Discipulus discrepantiam praebet feriarum et itineris docendi.

speaks. The student illustrates the difference between a vacation and a voyage for learning.

Quae cum ita essent, considero donum dollarium decies centenarum milium

Since these things are so, I consider the gift of a million dollars

recens pro itinere peregrino non satis conceptum. Magnificum et honorificum et amplum

recent for foreign travel not sufficiently thought out. Magnificent and honorable and generous

erat donum. Sed interrogatum habeo. Suntne in tenebris clausi datores illo tempore quo

was the gift. But I have this question. Were in-the-dark left the donors at that time when

studium linguae peregrinae paene erat deletum. Ubi gentium sumus, in quo accipit

the study of foreign language almost was destroyed. Where in the world are we, in which takes-

collegium pro studio peregrino montes pecuniae sed eodem tempore scindit linguas

the college for foreign study mountains of money but at the same time cuts languages-

peregrinas propter penuriam? Totum est contra opinionem omnium.

foreign because of lack of money? The whole affair is contrary to the judgement of all.

Absurdum. Somnia.

Absurd. Dream-fantasy.

Praeterea multa decies centena milia dollarium mutuum sumpta sunt pro gymnasio

Moreover, many millions of dollars as a loan have been taken out for the gymnasium

novo et splendido in additamento donorum acceptorum summae plus quam

new and splendid in addition to gifts received in total of more than

duodecim decies centenarum milium dollarium. Verum tamen nulli pauci denarii dati

twelve million dollars. Yet, no few pennies are given

sunt pro salutate studii linguae peregrinae. Principia huius collegii sunt praepostera. Mea

for the salvation of the study of foreign language? Priorities of this college are upside down. In my

sententia collegium Riponense non iam curat academica, sed potius ad discipulos

judgment Ripon College no longer cares for academics, but rather for students-to-be

attrahendos et pecuniam quaerendam. Non satis supermagistri intelligunt multos

attracted and for money to-be-acquired. Not sufficiently do administrators know that many

discipulos attrahi studio linguae peregrinae et ullum serium discipulum deflectum iri

students are attracted by the study of foreign language and any serious student will be turned off

linguarum penuria. Aestimatione mea meorum quattuor annorum, magnificior sumptus

by a lack of languages. In my judgment from my four years, the more magnificent the expense

consiliorum amplificatorum et dictorum callidorum, pauciores discipuli.

of spending plans and of clever slogans, the fewer the students.

Aptissime nunc dedicabo quoddam tempus ad linguam delectam hac nocte latinam.

Very fittingly now I shall dedicate some time to the chosen language tonight, Latin.

Haec sancta lingua plurima et maxima opera litterarum occidentalium produxit.

This majestic language very many & very great works of Western literature has produced.

Sedes ipsissima artium liberalium iacet in studio linguae latinae. Cogitate, amici mei,

The very foundation of liberal arts lies in the study of the Latin language. Think, my friends,

auctores illustres et philosophos et physicos et ceteros scriptores et praeterea illos

of illustrious authors and philosophers and scientists and other writers and moreover those

inspiratos et motos et operibus Graecis et Romanis. Multitudo gentium impulsa est et etiam

inspired and moved by works both Greek and Roman. A plethora of people were and are still

hodie impulsatur lingua Latina et magnis operibus mundi occidentalis. Itaque ut

today impacted by the Latin language and the great works of the western world. Therefore, that

magna opera vero intellegamus, haec quoque recentia et praesentia nos debemus

the great works truly we may know, those also of the recent past and in the present, we must

intelligere eventus qui acciderunt antequam nati sumus.

know the events which happened before we were born.

Quamquam quidam dicunt linguam Latinam et praetenta magna opera esse solum facta ab

Although some say the Latin language and the so-called great works are only products of

antiquis et mortuis et nobilibus albis viris, confirmo tamen ego, audite verba auctoris

ancient and dead and privileged white men, I say nevertheless to them, hear the words

famosi et discipulae studiorum classicorum Maya Angelou, "Adulescens ego putavi

of the famous author and student of classical studies Maya Angelou: "As a young person I thought

Shakespearem debere esse puellam Aethiopem. Quo modo aliter poterat intellegere animi

Shakespeare had to be a black girl. How else was he able to understand of-my-mind

motos mei?" Magna opera non valent ad amplificanda quaedam consilia vel aetatem, sed

the emotions? Great works are not worth studying for touting certain projects or an age, but

opera digna sunt studio quod sunt optima. Studia classica crescunt nobiscum et

works are worthy of study because they are excellent. Classics grow with us and

transcendunt omnes aetates et omnes artes. Plato et Artistotles et Cicero et multi alii sunt

transcend all ages and all cutures. Plato and Aristotle and Cicero and many others are

hodie magni momenti.

today of great importance.

Lingua Latina tamen deiecta est quod societas hodierna iudicat eam inutilem. Antiquam.

The Latin language however has been cast aside because today's society judges it useless. Outdated.

Obsoletam. Mortuam. Immo vero, ut dico ea nocte, lingua Latina moritur in collegio

Obsolete. Dead. But in truth, as I say this evening, the Latin language dies in Ripon

Riponensi non propter senectutem vel inutilitatem sed propter gladios in bello pecuniario.

College not because of old age or uselessness but because of swords in a money war. I

Ego me rogo, intelligantne hi gladiatores principia ipsa collegii artium liberalium?

ask myself, do these swordsmen understand the very principles of a college of liberal arts?

Admoneam eos, ut dixit vir doctissimus Britannicus, "meta ultima est generare virum

Let me remind them, as a very learned Englishman said, "The final goal is to create a person

omnino doctum aptum ad ducendum in civitate expolita et humana et eodem tempore ad

thoroughly educated, fit for leading in a society civilized and humane and at the same time for

adolescendum ad hominem satis completum."

developing into a person reasonably complete."

Minime affirmo ex bona fide homines esse omnino educatos in mundo hodierno sine

Not at all do I affirm in good faith that persons are fully educated in today's world without

quodam studio languarum peregrinarum. Praeterea si vero collegium curat praecipue

some study of foreign languages. Furthermore, if truly college cares only

significationem negotii, nihil excusationis manet. Quo modo supermagistri proponunt

for placement of employment, no excuse remains. How do the administrators propose

discipulos nostros contendere cum aliis qui recognoscant linguas in distincte mercatu

that our students compete with others who know languages in a distinctly economy-

globali?

global?

Dum studium linguae peregrinae cadit ad hominum pedes, nova sedes diversitatis

While the study of foreign language falls to the feet, a new center for diversity

institua est in collegio. Nolo detrectare, sed vero? Quo modo diversissima academica

is founded at the college. I do not wish to detract, but seriously? How can the most diverse academic

materia potest secari dum pecunia insumitur ad diversitatem socialem in collegio.

subject be cut while money is spent for social diversity on campus?

Legere opera auctorum Gallicorum Germanorum Graecorum Romanorum Hispanicorum

To read the works of authors French German Greeek Roman Spanish

est probatissimus perennialis modus ad promovendam diversitatem in collegio.

is a very proven perennial means for promoting diversity on the campus.

Quod enim collegium magni academici momenti non habet permultas occasiones pro studio

For what college of academic importance does not have many opportunities for the study of

linguarum peregrinarum. Multa collegia requirunt linguam peregrinam pro gradu.

foreign languages. Many colleges require foreign language for graduation.

Pauciores tamen linguas nos offerimus et disciplinam altam pauciorem. In dies nostra

Fewer however languages we offer and offerings advanced fewer. Day by day our

fama academica fit tenuior et inanior. In dies noster gradus fit multo inutilior.

reputation-academic becomes thinner and weaker. Daily our diploma becomes weaker.

Spero verba mea inceptura esse dialogum magni momenti depulsionis

I hope my words will begin a dialogue of importance about the removal

linguarum peregrinum, sed gravius, temporis futuri. Post gradum cum reveniam

of foreign languages, but more importantly, about the future. After graduation, when I return

ad collegium Riponense, spero vehementer me inventurum esse studium linguarum

to Ripon College, I fervently hope I will find the study of foreign languages

peregrinarum resuscitatum.

resurrected.

Gratias vobis ago.

THANK YOU.

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