

Archaeological Institute of America, Valparaiso University Society,
and Valparaiso University's Cultural Arts Committee present

“Worshipping Jupiter, Juno and Minerva in Roman North Africa”

**Monday, September 28th, 8:00 p.m., Harre Union
Ballroom A (West)**

An illustrated lecture by

Naomi Norman

Professor of Classics
University of Georgia

One reason people think of North Africa as the most Romanized of the Roman provinces is because of the many Roman religious facilities scattered throughout the North African provinces, including Capitolia, temples dedicated to the Capitoline triad of Jupiter Optimus Maximus, Juno, and Minerva. Capitolia were unusually popular in Africa; the African provinces have 20 definite and 17 probable Capitolia, while Italy has 19 definite Capitolia and the rest of the Empire only 13. These numbers raise the question why this particular religious facility was so popular in the African provinces, but relatively unpopular elsewhere in the Empire. At least one African Capitolium was built using money contributed by both the local indigenous community and the Roman community. The interest of the indigenous community in this Capitolium suggests that the Capitoline cult tapped indigenous religious mentalities. Indeed, there is abundant evidence for triads in Punic religion, and a number of non-Roman shrines in North Africa exhibit the same tripartite cella that characterizes the African Capitolium. This paper examines the evidence for Capitolia and non-Roman shrines in Roman Africa and argues that the earlier worship of pre-Roman Punic religious triads in the area created fertile ground for Capitolia in the African provinces.

To reserve a space for **dinner with Professor Norman** before the lecture, please call Professor Rick DeMaris at 219-464-5269, by **5:00 p.m., Tuesday, September 22nd**. Please leave a message on phone-mail if he is not in. **The dinner is in the Alumni Room, Harre Union, Valparaiso University, and will begin at 6:30 p.m.** The cost is \$13.00 per person (payment by check preferred, made out to AIA Valpo Society). There is ample parking around the building.



Mark your calendars! Future lecture dates:

Tuesday, November 10, 2009, “Deep Submergence Archaeology: The Final Frontier”

Monday, March 22, 2010, “Vani Regional Survey (Colchis, Black Sea, Republic of Georgia)”