**Jeffrey J. Howard** B.A. (Economics), B.Ed (Social Studies), M.Ed (Curriculum and Instruction), M.A. (Military Studies), M.A. (Classics), is an Interdisciplinary Ph.D candidate in Classics, History and Naval Architecture. The title of his proposed research topic is: “The Roman *Quinquereme*: The Return of a ‘Lost’ Ship.”

Jeff began his career as a high school economics teacher with teaching duties in history. To enhance his knowledge of history Jeff immersed himself in the study of historical texts, journals, primary documents and vacationed in Europe, retracing the steps of historical figures. His passion was particularly sparked by military history; so much so, that he completed an MA in Military Studies. While completing his studies Jeff was drawn to the ancient battles of Greece and Rome. When he inquired about applying to the Ph.D programme in history, the advisor pointed out that Jeff would need to become versed in Ancient Greek and Latin in order to study the primary documents. This meant that he had to start with Latin and Ancient Greek 101.

So, starting from scratch (with respect to the languages) Jeff pursued studies in the Classics which culminated in another MA. As part of his MA in Classics Jeff investigated combat stress among soldiers in the ancient Roman army seeking evidence of PTSD. Although the evidence uncovered could not conclusively state that PTSD existed at the time, other opportunities for research emerged. Jeff’s research centered on land battles and naval battles. While combing through the naval battles he discovered that many of the naval battles involved the formidable warship, the *quinquereme*. According to Polybius this *quinquereme* was paramount in Rome’s rise to power. Surprisingly, there is no extant evidence depicting what the *quinquereme* actually looked like.

It is Jeff’s intention to develop a three-dimensional virtual model of the *quinquereme* and, through numerical computation and computer simulation, examine its stability under varying conditions and its ability to manoeuvre with the weight of its equipment and soldiers. Since no single department can meet the research needs of this project, an interdisciplinary approach involving the Departments of Classics, History and Naval Architecture (Marine Institute) is essential.