



From the Chair —

The Department suffered a major loss in 2003–2004 with the retirement of our friend and colleague **Shoshana Felman** after thirty-three years on the faculty at Yale. After such a long and illustrious career here it is difficult to imagine Yale without Shoshana, or Shoshana without Yale. Nevertheless, we know that Shoshana will continue to do the kind of work for which she is so well known, and that this work will continue to be associated in some way with Yale.

Another piece of sad news is the departure of **Susan Weiner**, who is leaving teaching and scholarship for a career in academic administration. During her nine years on the faculty at Yale Susan taught a wide array of courses in cultural studies and modern French literature, served for two years as DUS, and published her well-received book on the figure of the rebellious adolescent girl in the popular literature and culture of post-war France. We wish Susan all the best as she begins her new career in California.

We regret also the departure of our dear friend **Vincent Giroud**, prodigious polymath and mercurial curator of the modern collection at the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, who is leaving his position at the Beinecke in search of an academic position at a research university. Vincent first came to Yale in 1978 as a “normalien de service” in the Department of French, and liked the experience so much that he stayed through 1980 as a Visiting Lecturer of French. Since his return to the Beinecke in 1987 he has been a constant and faithful friend to the Department and an invaluable resource to all our students and faculty. We will all miss Vincent for his high energy, quick wit, encyclopedic knowledge, and unflagging activity in the cause of French arts and letters.

Other news from the Department of French is decidedly happier. Of particular note: **Chris Miller** spent the year on leave with an NEH and a Guggenheim Fellowship, researching and writing his new book on literature and culture related to the French slave trade. His research took him to France in the fall and to Martinique in the spring. In June Chris was married to his long-time partner, Chris Rivers (Ph.D. '89). **Howard Bloch** published his magnum opus on Marie de France (Chicago University Press) as well as several articles on Marie and her fables, while at the same time serving as Director of the Division of the Humanities at Yale. This spring Howard was named a “Getty Scholar” and will spend the coming year researching his new project on the Bayeux Tapestry at the Getty Research Institute in California. **Catherine Labio** found an excellent publisher for her forthcoming book on Enlightenment epistemology and esthetics (Cornell University Press), served as Assistant Director of the Whitney Humanity Center and DUS of French, was promoted to Associate Professor, and will spend the coming year on Senior Faculty Fellowship researching her new book on literature and economics. **Alyson Waters** published her translation of Reda Bensmaïa's *Experimental Nations or, the Invention of the Maghreb* (Princeton University Press) and was awarded a National Endowment for the Arts Translation Fellowship, which allowed her to spend the spring translating Vassilis Alexakis's most recent novel, *Les mots étrangers*. For other faculty news please see page 5.

During Chris Miller's absence we were fortunate to be joined by two visiting professors who taught francophone literature in 2003–04. In the fall **Achille Mbembe**, Professor of History and Politics at the University of the Witwatersrand (Johannesburg), gave a graduate seminar on the “Functions of ‘Appetite’ in Contemporary African Fiction” while at the same time teaching in the Department of

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Shoshana Felman Retires



In January 2004 an important era in the department's history came to an end with the retirement of our colleague and friend **Shoshana Felman**. Shoshana arrived at Yale in 1970, as an Assistant Professor with an M.A. from Hebrew University of Jerusalem and a doctorate from the University of Grenoble. Over the next thirty-three years she taught generations of Yale students and published the many books on literature and psychoanalysis, feminism, law, and the Holocaust that are well known to us all, and that established Shoshana Felman as one of the most original and important scholars of French and comparative literature in the world.

Among her many well known works are: *La “Folie” dans l'oeuvre romanesque de Stendhal* (Paris: José Corti, 1971); *La Folie et la chose littéraire* (Paris: Editions du Seuil, 1978); *Le Scandale du corps parlant: Don Juan avec Austin, ou la Séduction en deux langues* (Paris: Editions du Seuil, 1980); *Jacques Lacan and the Adventure of Insight: Psychoanalysis in Contemporary Culture* (Cambridge, Mass. and London: Harvard University Press, 1987); *Testimony: Crises of Witnessing in Literature, Psychoanalysis and History* co-authored with Dori Laub, M.D. (New York and London: Routledge, 1992); *What Does a Woman Want? Reading and Sexual Difference* (Baltimore and London: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1993); and *The Juridical Unconscious: Trials and Traumas in the Twentieth Century* (Harvard University Press, Fall 2002).

With gratitude and sadness the Department of French wishes her the very best in her retirement, and in her post-retirement appointment at Emory University.

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African American Studies. In the spring **Josias Semujanga**, Professeur Agrégé at the Université de Montréal, taught our introductory undergraduate course on “Francophone Literature of Africa and the Caribbean.” We took full advantage of the presence of our distinguished visitors by inviting them to give public lectures sponsored by the department. Professor Mbembe spoke on post-colonial theory (“Loi et jouissance: critique de la critique post-coloniale”) and Professor Semujanga on the validity of the category of the “francophone novel” (“Formes du roman francophone contemporain”).

As announced in last year's Newsletter, the **Naomi Schor Memorial Lecture Fund** was created in 2002 by the Faculty Women Forum of Yale to sponsor annual lectures in the fields of Naomi's own research: French, feminism, and women's studies. Now fully endowed thanks to gifts from the President and Provost of the University and to generous donations from Naomi's many friends, colleagues, and students, the Fund launched the new series in September, with a splendid inaugural lecture by **Joan Wallach Scott**, Harold F. Linder Professor at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, appropriately on the subject close to Naomi's last major research project: “French Universalism in the Nineties.” We look forward to a long and illustrious series of Naomi Schor Memorial Lectures.

Among the other lectures sponsored and co-sponsored by the Department, special mention goes to Anne-Marie Thiesse (Directrice de Recherche, CNRS), “Nationale ou universelle? La redéfinition de la littérature française au XIX^e siècle;” Driss Maghraoui (Visiting Lecturer, Department of History), “Old Wine in New Bottles: Islam and the Colonial Origin of the Immigration Debate in France;” Adrienne Tooke (Somerville College, Oxford), “Flaubert's *Hérodias*: Saying It All;” Alexandre Leupin (LSU), “Théorie du signe et littérature médiévale: la *Chanson de Roland et le Roman de la Rose*;” Richard J. Golsan (Texas A&M), “The Politics of Complicity: Collaborationism and the Lessons of History.” In addition, our own Catherine Labio gave a public lecture on the subject of her undergraduate course: “The *bande dessinée* from *Tintin* to *Titeuf*.”

The Department also co-sponsored an international conference on “French Opera from Gounod to the Ballets Russes,” organized by Vincent Giroud. Papers on literary as well as musicological aspects of operas by Bizet, Massenet, Debussy, Ravel, and many others were presented by Gérard Condé (Paris), Hervé Lacombe

(Rennes), Henri Mitterand (Columbia and Paris III), Jean-Christophe Branger (Paris), Karen Henson (Columbia), Philippe Blay (BNF, Paris), Robert Orledge (Liverpool), Steven Huebner (McGill), Jane Fulcher (Indiana). The conference was complemented by an exuberant performance of Gounod's opéra comique *Le Médecin malgré lui* (after Molière), sung in French by the Yale Opera under the direction of Ransom Wilson with added recitatives by Eric Satie. This little-known work by the composer of *Faust* and *Roméo et Juliette* was introduced to a wider public through pre-performance lectures by Steven Huebner, Robert Orledge, and our own **Jacques Guicharnaud**.

For the coming year the department is planning an international conference titled “Napoleon's Legacies / Le sillage de Napoléon: 1804-2004,” to be held on the occasion of the second centenary of Napoleon's coronation (December 3-4, 2004). The program will include panels on art, literature, colonialism and slavery, law and the shape of modern Europe. I hope you will be free to join us in New Haven.

As always, we were pleased to welcome among us four students from the Ecole Normale Supérieure: Rémy Duthille, Charlotte Lacoste, Aurélie Ledoux, and Julie Verlaine. In exchange, two of our own students enjoyed the resources and stimulation of the ENS as they researched their dissertations in Paris: **Ronan Chalmin**, who is writing on corruption in the *siècle des lumières*, and **Brooke Donaldson**, who is writing on figurative language in the poetry

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Ryan Poynter, Brian Reilly and Matuku Ngame

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Your comments, suggestions and news are most welcome!

Julia Downs
French Newsletter
P.O. Box 209010
New Haven, CT 06520-9010
julia.downs@yale.edu

Editor:

Julia Downs, Association of Yale Alumni

Contributing Writers:

Edwin Duval
Thomas Kavanagh
Catherine Labio
Alyson Waters
Agnès Bolton

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Shirley Gaddy

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of Maurice Scève and Charles Baudelaire. For the first time in the history of the ENS exchange one of our students, **Ryan Poynter**, was able to spend the "ENS year" in Martinique instead of Paris, researching *in situ* his very promising dissertation on representations of eroticism in francophone Caribbean fiction and poetry.

In their study abroad Ronan, Brooke, and Ryan were among the many grateful beneficiaries of our faithful graduate alumni, whose generous donations to the Graduate Alumni Fund are so important in advancing the careers of the next generation of scholars in our field. In the past year alone, your contributions helped us to recruit a promising new class of graduate students by subsidizing campus visits for seven prospective students admitted to the program; provided current students with a state-of-the-art computer for use in their newly remodeled graduate student library and lounge; helped defray the costs of a fully staged, costumed, and choreographed student production of Jean-Luc Lagarce's *La Photographie*, directed by second-year student **Jeffrey Leichman**; and subsidized travel costs for five advanced graduate students who gave papers at conferences around the country and attended the MLA in San Diego in search of a job. On behalf of all our students: thank you, dear friends, for your faithful support which goes so far in making graduate study in French so productive.

For as long as anyone can remember the department has offered summer courses in first and second year French (French 115 and 130) through the Yale Summer Language Institute. In summer 2003 we tried something completely new by taking our courses to France. French 130, taught by graduate students Joe Acquisto and Ryan Poynter, was divided between four weeks in New Haven and four weeks in Paris, and a new course on "Parisian Culture and the Literary Imagination," designed and taught by **Lauren Pinzka**, was taught entirely in Paris. The experiment was so successful that we repeated it again this past summer, with French 130 and a special version of "Advanced Culture and Conversation in Paris" designed and taught by **Françoise Schneider**. Encouraged by strong enrollments and high student enthusiasm we plan to continue and perhaps expand the program in the future.

You may have read in the Yale Alumni Magazine that the Faculty of Arts and Sciences voted into effect a controversial change in the requirements for a degree in Yale College. Among other things, the language requirement was significantly modified: decreased from four semesters to three for students entering with no useable competence in a language, but increased from zero to one for all those who used to "pass out" of the language requirement. We are not yet certain what effect this will have on our enrollments, though we suspect that we will gain as many linguistically well-prepared students in our upper-division courses as we lose linguistically incompetent students in the second half of our second-year course. In the meantime, the language faculty are hard at work devising a new course and modifying old courses to accommodate the new requirement.

Last fall the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Education, together with the Connecticut State Department of Education, established a "Resource Center for the Teaching of French" to promote and support the teaching of French language and culture in Connecticut schools (kindergarten through high school). Because the Center is located on our campus at the Yale Center for International and Area Studies, the department has

The Department of French will hold its traditional cash bar for alumni, faculty and current graduate students at the annual meeting of the **Modern Language Association**. Please join us:

Tuesday, December 28, 2004
5:15 – 6:30 pm
Loews Philadelphia Hotel
Commonwealth Hall D
1200 Market Street, Philadelphia

The Yale Graduate School of Arts and Sciences also invites you to its annual reception for alumni, faculty and students in all departments associated with the MLA but, unfortunately, it will be held at the very same time:

Tuesday, December 28, 2004
5:15 – 6:30 pm
Philadelphia Marriott Hotel
Franklin Hall A
1201 Market Street, Philadelphia

welcomed its energetic new director, Mireille Déchelette, as a member of our extended community. **Ora Avni** and **Julia Prest** have lectured in programs offered by the Center, and Mireille has proven to be an invaluable resource for information on everything from new language teaching methods to events relating to French literature and culture throughout the Northeast.

Having served for seven of the last ten semesters as a remarkably energetic DGS, **Ora Avni** returned to full-time teaching in December and was succeeded in that office by **Tom Kavanagh**. We are all grateful to Ora for her well-known devotion to the students of our department and to the graduate program, and to Tom for his amazing calm, efficiency, and sensitivity in the first months of his DGSship. Long may he reign! In June **Catherine Labio** ended a phenomenal two-year term as DUS during which she completely overhauled our undergraduate curriculum and major. She was succeeded by **Jean-Jacques Poucel**, who is returning from his Morse year in Paris. As you can see, the graduate and undergraduate programs have been and remain in very good hands. One thing that, very fortunately for everyone, has not changed at all is that **Agnès Bolton** remains our office manager and assistant to the chair, and **Shirley Gaddy** remains our departmental registrar and assistant to the DUS and DGS. Ask any former, current, or prospective chair, DGS, DUS, professor, or student about Agnès and Shirley, and



you will learn why the Department of French considers itself blessed among departments at Yale.

Thank you all for your continued support of the department. Please send us your news for inclusion in these pages, and check our website (<http://www.yale.edu/french>) for news updates, photographs, and announcements of special events. — **Ned Duval**

From the DGS —

It was only last January, returning from a much appreciated research leave, that I began my duties as DGS. I want very much to thank my predecessor, Ora Avni, for her always generous help in getting through my first semester. Over the time she was DGS, Ora set an admirable standard for helping people along and keeping a finger poised on every pulse.

As always, the core of our program this year was the array of courses offered. During the fall semester they were: “Old French” (Burde); “Gender, Desire, and the Modern Stage” (Mounsef); “The Bayeux Tapestry” (Bloch); “Testimony: Crises of Witnessing in Literature, Psychoanalysis and History” (Felman); “Representations of the German Occupation in Literature and Film” (Avni); “The Functions of ‘Appetite’ in Contemporary African Fiction” (Mbembe) and “Après-Mai” (Weiner). During the Spring semester they were: “Jean-Jacques Rousseau” (Kavanagh); “The Medieval French Lyric” (Bloch); “Events, Ideologies, and Literature in the Renaissance” (Duval); “Theatrical Controversy in 17th Century France” (Prest); “French Perspective, Maghreban Landscape” (Laroussi) and “Experiments in Fiction” (Avni).

Reflecting the interdisciplinary focus of contemporary graduate studies, our students took a wide variety of courses offered in other departments. Among the more popular were “Walter Benjamin’s Literary Criticism,” “Problems in the Theory of Literature” and “Contemporary European Fiction” in Comparative Literature; “Schopenhauer’s World as Will and Representation” in Philosophy; “Jane Austen’s World” and “Drama, Performance and Mass Culture” in English; “Geographies & Genealogies of Spanish American Literature,” “Toledo: Foundations of Medieval Culture” and “The Jungle Books” in Spanish; “The Contemporary Novel” in Italian as well as courses in Renaissance Studies, Greek and Arabic.

Our exchange program with the École Normale Supérieure continues with much benefit for both institutions. During the 2003-2004 academic year two students from French, Ronan Chalmin (who became Yale’s great contribution to the ENS soccer team) and Brooke Donaldson, spent the year in Paris along with Kenneth Loisselle from History and Catherine Bredeson from the Drama School. During the academic year 2004-2005, the French Department will be represented at the ENS by Scott Hiley, Larisa Smirnova, and Agnieszka Tworek as well as Christopher Van den Berg from Comparative Literature.

Five of the graduate students passed their Oral Qualifying Exams this last year: Michael Call, John Lytle, Scott Hiley, Brian Reilly, and Laure Marcellesi. Two other students, Jessica Nyamugushi and Michael Call had their Dissertation prospectus approved.

Ryan Poynter, who spent the year at the Université des Antilles et de la Guyane in Martinique on a Chateaubriand Fellowship, was awarded a Whiting Fellowship for the 2004-2005 academic year. Larisa Smirnova was awarded a Lurcy Traveling Fellowship for her study in France next year. Scott Hiley was awarded a Beinecke Fellowship for the summer and Tara Golba was awarded a tuition scholarship to the Institut d’études françaises d’Avignon.

Four Ph.D dissertations were completed last year. Caroline Hatton, the winner of this year’s Marguerite Peyre award, wrote on “Narrative *Lai* and Verse Romance: Generations and Intergeneric Play” with Howard Bloch; Bettina Lerner wrote on “An Image of the *Peuple*: Politics, Poetics and Authority in Nineteenth-Century

France” with Ora Avni; Joseph Mai wrote on “Lost Order: Repercussions of Secularization on Literary and Film Rhetoric” with Ora Avni, and Rebecca Ruquist wrote on “Paris, Race and Universalism in the Black Atlantic: Léopold Sedar Senghor, Simone de Beauvoir, Boris Vian and Richard Wright” with Christopher L. Miller. Caroline Hatton will be teaching here at Yale this year, Joseph Mai will be teaching at Clemson University, Bettina Lerner at City College of CUNY, and Rebecca Ruquist at Florida State University.

Turning from completions to beginnings, six new students will be joining the graduate program in the fall. They are Susannah Carson from San Francisco State and the Université de Versailles, Jessica DeVos from Bryn Mawr, Matthew Landry from Dickinson College, Claire McMurray from the University of California San Diego, Sarah Williams from Principia College and Chung Yoon from the University of Illinois-Champaign/Urbana.

Last year was also graced by second-year student Jeff Leichman’s superb production and direction of Jean-Luc Lagrâce’s stage play, *La Photographie*, in which our own graduate students, Scott Hiley, John Lytle and Agnieszka Tworek, were among the leading roles. Toward the end of the year two of the visiting *normaliennes*, Julie Verlaine and Aurélie Ledoux, organized the screening of three films in the series “Portraits” dealing with contemporary French documentaries.

Last, but certainly not least, I would like to thank our Registrar, Shirley Gaddy, for her constant help and unflagging patience during my break-in period.

— Thomas Kavanagh



Yale French Studies

The exciting line-up for forthcoming volumes of *Yale French Studies* continues to reflect the journal’s extensive scope. YFS 106, which will appear in December 2004, is entitled *The Power of Rhetoric, the Rhetoric of Power: Jean Paulhan’s Fiction, Criticism, and Editorial Activity*. Edited by Paulhan specialist and translator Michael Syrotinski (’89 PhD) of the University of Aberdeen, Scotland, the volume also includes previously unpublished, English language versions of two short pieces by Paulhan. YFS 107, edited by Deborah Jenson of the University of Wisconsin, offers a fascinating look at the field of Haitian studies today. The volume, entitled *The Haiti Issue (1804 and Nineteenth Century French Studies)* will appear in the Spring of 2005, just after the 200th anniversary of Haitian independence. YFS 108, entitled *Crime Fictions*, and edited by Susannah Lee (’99 PhD) of Georgetown University and Andrea Goulet (’99 PhD) of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, will examine French and Francophone *romans* and *films noirs*.

If you haven’t yet visited the *Yale French Studies* website, please do: <http://research.yale.edu/frenchstudies>.

Bonne lecture!

— Alyson Waters

From the DUS —

As was announced in our previous newsletter, significant changes to the major were introduced in Fall 2003. We have added four new “gateway courses” that reflect our growing commitment to interdisciplinary approaches to French studies and to geographical comprehensiveness. I think here, in particular, of our new cultural history and contemporary society and cultures courses, which were taught by **Marie-Hélène Girard** and **Farid Laroussi** respectively. One focused on food and gastronomy and the other on immigration. We have strengthened our offerings at the next level as well and are committed to making sure that students always have access to a comprehensive range of courses introducing specific genres, periods, and geographic areas on a rotating basis. Finally, we have diversified our more specialized course offerings in a number of ways in order to bring French to the attention of students who might otherwise not think of studying francophone language, literature, or culture. The success of the French language sections offered in the context of **John Merriman**’s lecture courses on French history has led **Dudley Andrew** to add an equally successful French section to his course on French New Wave Cinema. A new course on *la bande dessinée*, double-titled between French and the Literature major, attracted a large number of students from across the university. As a result of these and other innovations, enrollments in upper division courses were up by more than 50 percent in 2003-04.

Additionally, the number of credits required of French majors has been slightly reduced and is now on a par with the requirements

of other departments and programs. We have consequently seen a threefold increase in the overall number of majors, most of whom are double majoring in fields as diverse as chemistry, biology, applied physics, comparative literature, political science, music, English, Italian, and economics and mathematics. We expect some ten seniors to graduate with a French major in Spring 2005, a small number perhaps, but one not seen since 1991. We are looking forward to advising and reading what promises to be a fascinating and diverse crop of senior essays.

In the meantime, I would like to extend my warmest congratulations to the graduating seniors of 2004, both of whom earned a well deserved “distinction in the major”: **Aaron Feigenbaum**, who wrote a senior essay titled “A la recherche de la stabilité: le poète et son univers dans *La Maison de Silvie* de Théophile de Viau” (**Edwin Duval**, advisor) and **Francesca Gardner**,



whose thesis is titled “Integration, Assimilation, and Female Muslim Identity: The Question of the Veil in France” (**Donia Mounsef**, advisor).

Both graduates are headed for New York. Aaron will be attending Columbia Law School, while Francesca will be working for Brunswick, a London-based corporate public relations firm. — **Catherine Labio**

Other Departmental News

Ora Avni lectured on Joan of Arc and on the French historical *imaginaire* at UCLA, Scripps College, and the International Colloquium on 20th and 21st Century French Studies.

Peter Brooks was away from Yale on leave of absence for the year, residing with his new family in Charlottesville, Virginia.

Tom Kavanagh completed his new book on gambling in French culture and contributed an article to the *MLA Approaches to Teaching Rousseau’s Confessions and Reveries*.

For the last three years **Maria Kosinski** has served half-time as the director of a new program at Yale called “Directed Independent Language Study” (DILS). This fall she assumed the full-time directorship of an expanded, more comprehensive office of Independent Language Programs.

Farid Laroussi co-edited (with Chris Miller) the YFS volume on “French and Francophone,” to which he also contributed an article, and published a letter in *Le Monde* against the French government’s position on headscarves in public schools (“Pourquoi je suis devenu américain,” Dec.11, 2003), which led to an invitation to appear on NPR (“The Anti-Islamic Headscarf Law in France,” Feb.13, 2004).

Donia Mounsef contributed several entries to the *Grolier Encyclopedia of Modern Drama*.

Matuku Ngame continues to evaluate Advanced Placement tests in French literature for ETS, and has won an Instructional Innovation Grant from the Center for Language

Study to study the usefulness of AP grades in placing students in our own language classes.

Jean-Jacques Poucel was on Morse fellowship for the year, researching his new project on contemporary experimental poetry in France. He co-edited a special edition of *Yale French Studies* devoted to reading Georges Perec, to which he also contributed an article, gave a paper at the MLA, co-organized the Working Group in Contemporary Poetry at Yale, and found a good publisher for his book on Jacques Roubaud (North Carolina Studies in Romance Languages and Literatures).

Julia Prest finished her book manuscript on cross-casting and women’s roles in French theater under Louis XIV and several articles and encyclopedia entries on related subjects. In addition to her teaching she offered two seminars on French baroque music to the postgraduate conducting students at the Institute



of Sacred Music, and pursued her active musical career with the Yale Camerata, Yale Pro Musica, and Yale Recital Chorus.

*Jeffrey Leichman,
Alexandra Gueydan,
Laure Marcellesi*

More Than Mentoring: Yale Alumni Career Network

On April 30, 2004, the Association of Yale Alumni launched a new Yale Career Network, or Yale^{CN}, a university-wide online service for alumni.

The Yale^{CN} is a password-protected, searchable database of alumni who have volunteered to be a resource or who have expressed an interest in networking with other alumni. The Network offers searches across a number of fields, including industry, company name, job function, or job title.

While not a job placement service, the Yale^{CN} can be a valuable tool to assist alumni at all stages of their career. Students can consult alumni for advice and guidance ... young alumni can interact with more experienced alumni ... other alumni may be interested in exploring changing career paths. And even alumni who are well established in their careers can leverage the Yale^{CN} by engaging with peers, whether they are looking for partners, investors, or employees.

The network has been enhanced for alumni of the Graduate School. Through a grant from the Woodrow Wilson Fellowship Foundation, a special Graduate School Toolbox has been created

with listservs in five broad career areas. It offers career tips primarily for alumni working in nonacademic careers and for students interested in pursuing these opportunities.

You are invited to visit and join the Yale^{CN} at www.aya.yale.edu/career. A simple profile wizard will walk you through the process of entering the database and indicating your career expertise and interests.



Maryam Sanjabi, Maria Kosinski, Ned Duval, Soumia Koundi, Thomas Kavanagh, Marie-Dominique Boyce, Farid Laroussi, Françoise Schneider, Chris Miller, Julia Prest, Chuck Porter, Jean-Jacques Poucel, Anne Dropick (Back row) Ora Avni, Matuku Ngame, Anne Ambrogelly and Léo (Front row)

IN MEMORIAM: ALUMNI

Stephen Barber Davidson '65 BA, '70 MPhil died on November 15, 2003, in Toulouse, France, at the age of 60. After earning his doctorate at Yale, he taught French at the University of Minnesota for four years. He then moved to Italy, where he studied art restoration. Eventually he returned to the U.S., and spent the rest of his life serving the Friends Society, both here and abroad.

Eric Carl Hicks '59 BA, '65 PhD died on January 3, 2004, at the age of 66. He was Professor of Medieval French Language and Literature at the University of Lausanne in Switzerland. Eric Hicks was widely known as a distinguished scholar of the fifteenth-century poet and prose writer Christine de Pizan. In addition to critical editions and translations of several of Pizan's major works, including the *Livre de la cité des dames*, the *Livre des faits et bonnes moeurs du roi Charles V le Sage*, and the *Livre des trois vertus*, Professor Hicks published the complete dossier of the so-called "querrelle des femmes," in which Pizan took on the entire male establishment by attacking Jean de Meun.

Genevieve L. Holmes '49 MA died on September 9, 2002.

News of the passing of **Sister Madonna Murphy** C.S.C. '44 PhD on February 13, 2001, was sent by Sylvia Dworski '47 PhD.

Natalie Sandomirsky '56 PhD died on March 1, 2003, at the age of 79. She was a college professor for more than 40 years. She first taught French language and literature at Albertus Magnus College, followed by a position at Southern Connecticut State University. There she created a course on African culture as well as honors classes in etymology, critical thinking and history, and served as an assistant academic dean for more than 30 years. Throughout her life she was politically active; she served as a member of the League of Women Voters and as a member of the Connecticut Democratic State Committee. In her final years, she did pro bono work translating and editing for women's health and advocacy groups in West and Central Africa.

Frederic Chase St. Aubyn '47 MA, '52 PhD of Hamden, Connecticut, died on April 30, 2004, at the age of 82. He served three years in the Pacific during World War II. His teaching career included positions at the State University of New York, the University of Delaware, Elmira College (NY) and the University of Pittsburgh, from which he retired in 1986. In the course of his career he published over 50 articles and 160 reviews, as well as two French textbooks and scholarly works on the poets Mallarmé, Rimbaud and Peguy. In 1986, he was named a Chevalier in the Ordre des Palmes Academiques by the French government.

News from Alumni —

William Roberts (PhD '55) is professor emeritus in the Department of French and Italian at Northwestern University. In May 2004 he presented a paper, "Perelle's Presentation of Louis XIV's Paris," at the North American Seventeenth-Century Society Conference at Portland State University (Oregon). As the bibliographer he also submitted his annual report on dissertations and research in progress. At the Phenomenology Conference at Harvard he chaired a session and gave the paper "Reality and Illusion in Seventeenth-Century Parisian Engravings." Since then he has pursued Perelle material further among certain rare books in Harvard collections. He reports that "Librarians were most kind and hospitable, and the facilities exceptional. But the thought of so betraying wonderful, faraway Sterling Memorial does lead to persistent feelings of guilt..."

Paul J. Archambault (PhD '63) writes: "I arrived at Yale, coming from Assumption College (Worcester, Massachusetts) in the Fall of 1958. My course work for the next two years included seminars with beloved professors such as Henri Peyre, Georges May, Victor Brombert, Howard Garey, Kenneth Douglas, Kenneth Cornell, and Imbrie Buffum. The professor who perhaps influenced me most was the late Daniel Poirion, who directed my doctoral dissertation on the political thought of Philippe de Commynes (1445-1511), and made me want to be a medievalist. I taught French courses "across the centuries" at Amherst College (1962-68), and was invited to Syracuse University in the Fall of 1968, especially to teach in its doctoral program. I have been at Syracuse University since 1968



(35 years), and became Full Professor in 1973. I have directed Syracuse's programs abroad for a total of eight years, first in Poitiers (1970-71), then in Strasbourg (1974-77, 1983-85 and 1989-90). I have published six books and about seventy-five articles. Recently I learned that I will be appointed "Emmanuel d'Alzon Professor of Liberal Studies," an endowed Chair in the Humanities, for the years 2004-2006 at Assumption College, while the College is celebrating its centennial. I do not plan to cut my ties with Syracuse. I send my affectionate greetings to those of my teachers and colleagues who read this bio, assuring them that I have the fondest memories of our days in the Yale Graduate School. I am married to Marianna Mustacchi Archambault, who recently retired from Bucknell University, where she taught from 1969 to 2001. I have two lovely daughters, Aude and Ellénore, and two grandchildren."

Mark Gross (M.Phil '86) writes, "Upon leaving the French Department in 1989, I joined the Council on International Educational Exchange, a not-for-profit organization based in New York City, where I was director of professional and continuing education programs until 1993. From 1993 until 1995, I was an associate in the International Personnel Department of Goldman, Sachs & Co. Since 1995, I have been working at Lehman Brothers Inc., a global investment bank based in New York. I am currently a senior vice president and director of global compensation for the firm. I am married and live in Glen Ridge, New Jersey, with my wife Julie and our two children, Hannah (age 9) and Benjamin (age 7)."

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You may fax to (203)432-8144 or email to julia.downs@yale.edu

NAPOLEON'S LEGACIES / LE SILLAGE DE NAPOLEÓN 1804-2004

December 3-4, 2004

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