



Greetings from the Chair –

The 2007-2008 academic year ended on a singularly happy note when the department's two-year long search for a senior specialist in contemporary literature culminated in the successful hiring of **Alice Kaplan** '81 PhD of Duke University (*right*) who will join the Yale faculty in January of 2009 and begin teaching here in the fall of that year. Alice Kaplan is not only recognized internationally as the leading specialist of French literature and culture during the crucial period of the 1930s through the 1950s (and of the continuing social and political repercussions of those troubled times), but her work has elaborated an innovative methodology bringing together literary and historical studies around an acute concern for archival material animated by the imaginative interpretation of primary and secondary source material. Her groundbreaking work on the cultural foundations and literary representation of fascism and racism will allow the Department to build productive relations with such departments as History, Comparative Literature and the Literature Major, and Political Science. Her highly original scholarly work appeals to a wide audience not only of specialists but of general readers as well. Many of you are undoubtedly familiar with what is Alice Kaplan's most personal work, *French Lessons: A Memoir*. An entire generation of students of French in this country has been influenced by this memoir, which a reviewer in the *New York Times* described as "a rare and moving evocation of what it feels like – and what it means – to fall in love with a language not one's own." Alice Kaplan's broad and deep command of modern French literature and culture will inspire our students and safeguard the department's preeminence upon the national scene.



Also joining the department as an assistant professor is **Yue Zhuo** (*below*). Yue received her BA *magna cum laude* in French from Columbia University and this past May she completed her PhD in French at New York University. Her dissertation on Barthes, Bataille, Lacan, and Quignard was written under the direction of Denis Hollier, whom many of you remember from his years teaching in the department at Yale.



This last year saw only one faculty member on leave each semester. **Ora Avni** was away in the fall semester and returned to announce that she will be beginning a pre-retirement program which will see her teaching in the department only one semester each year for the next three years before her retirement. During this past spring semester **Maurie Samuels** took a much deserved break

from his duties as Director of Graduate Studies to work on his new book dealing with Jews and the construction of French identity in the nineteenth century.

While Maurie was away **Chris Miller** served as the Acting Director of Graduate Studies. Chris did an absolutely outstanding job of devising and coordinating a new system of graduate student recruitment which saw all of our successful candidates coming to visit for a two-day period that provided them an intensive introduction to both the department and the university. This year also saw the publication

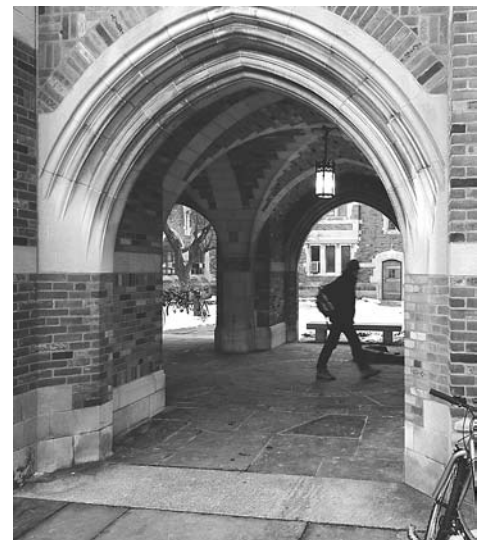
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The Department of French will hold its traditional cash bar for alumni, faculty and current graduate students at the annual meeting of the **Modern Language Association**. Please join us:

Monday, 29 December
5:15–6:30 p.m.
Yerba Buena Ballroom, Salon 5
San Francisco Marriott
55 4th St.
San Francisco

You are also invited to a Yale reception hosted by the Graduate School:

Sunday, 28 December
5:15–6:30 p.m.
Imperial A
Hilton San Francisco
333 O' Farrell St.
San Francisco



Chair's Message continued from page 1

of Chris's new book, *The French Atlantic Triangle: Literature and Culture of the Slave Trade* from Duke University Press. During the spring Labyrinth Books on York Street hosted a heavily attended book signing by Chris.

This past year **Julia Prest** continued her stellar service as Director of Undergraduate Studies, shepherding our growing number of majors and supervising the eleven senior essays completed this year. Julia's critical edition of Thomas Corneille and Donneau de Visé's *La Devineresse* also appeared from Oxford this past year and, during the fall semester, she hosted the 26th Annual Conference of the Society for Interdisciplinary French Seventeenth-Century Studies. As part of that conference, fifth-year graduate student **Jeffrey Leichman** staged what was a superb production of Molière's *Le Mariage forcé*.

Once again the department sponsored a rich array of lectures and cultural events. Among our visitors were Martine Reid of the Université de Lille III, Françoise Melonio of Paris IV, Nicolas Weill of *Le Monde*, Bettina Lerner of City College of New York, Evelyne Bloch-Dano, the author of *Madame Proust*, Christian Bök, a Canadian poet, Olga Borovaya of Stanford University, Linda Nochlin of the NYU Institute of Fine Arts who gave this year's Naomi Schor Memorial Lecture, John Merriman of Yale (Chocolate Lecture), Jérôme Game of the American University in Paris, Froma Zeitlin of Princeton University, Pascale Casanova of the C.N.R.S., Marie Dollé of the Université de Picardie, Alice Kaplan of Duke University, Dominique Kalifa of the Université de Paris I, Lawrence Kritzman of Dartmouth University, and Judith Mayne of the Ohio State University. In terms of film-related activities, November brought an Avant-Garde Film Series featuring works by Bært, Arcega, Lest, and Cote; in February we had a visit by Olivier Assayas with a showing of three of his films; and in April a Tournée Film Festival with works by Jaoui, Haroun, Courneau, Ferrouhki, and Nossiter.

This was the second year during which a large number of undergraduate and graduate students benefited from the funds made available by the **Kenneth Cornell Memorial Fund**. Distributing more than three times what we were able to do last summer, we awarded almost \$90,000 to students undertaking study and research in French-speaking countries. A total of seventeen awards averaging \$3000 were made to undergraduates who will do language and literature study in the context of Yale's (and other) summer programs; four awards were made to advanced undergraduates to facilitate the research for their senior theses; each of our second-year graduate students received a \$3000 travel grant for summer study in Paris; two first-year graduate students were sent to Bryn Mawr's summer Institut d'Études Françaises in Avignon; and four advanced graduate students received support for various research projects. Special thanks for the smooth functioning of this program go to **Ruth Koizim**, to **Julia Prest** as DUS, and to **Chris Miller** as DGS.

This year also saw two departures from the department: those of **Peter Brooks** who went to Princeton University and of **Maria Kosinski** who moved to Florida where she will be working with the language programs at the University of Miami.

This spring saw the death, at the age of 102, of Jean Boorsch. Among those who spoke at the memorial service in Dwight Chapel on May 17 were Mary Ann Caws, Chuck Porter, Victor Brombert, and Edward Baron Turk. To honor the memory of this colleague

who taught at Yale for forty years, the department has established a **Jean Boorsch Memorial Fund**. Those interested in making contributions can do so directly to the department.

I would also like to mention a number of people who deserve special thanks for their activities this past year: the four exchange students from the École Normale Supérieure – **Clarisse Barthélémy**, **Emilie Chauve**, **Pierre Haroche** and **Julie Simoneau** for their excellent teaching; **Jonathan Cayer** and **Maryn Stockman** for all their work as the co-chairs of the Graduate Association of French Students; **Agnès Bolton** and **Brenda Crocker** for keeping everything running so smoothly.

On a more personal note, I am particularly grateful to **Chris Miller** who generously agreed to serve as Acting Chair of the department while I am on leave during the fall 2008 semester.

Let me close by extending the department's warm congratulations to our distinguished alumna, Catherine Porter '72 PhD, on assuming the position of president of the Modern Language Association for the 2008-2009 academic year. Catherine is well known as a translator of Derrida, Foucault, Kofman, Hollier, and many others. She is also professor of French emerita at the State University of New York at Cortland, where she served as chair of the Department of International Communications and Culture.

Last but certainly not least, I wish to thank the many alumni and friends of the department who generously contributed their financial support to the department's work. Your help has made it possible for the department to support things for which there is otherwise no funding. These included defraying the expenses of our finishing graduate students for their travel to the MLA convention and its interviews, supporting travel by graduate students to give professional presentations, and underwriting visits to the Yale campus by prospective students being recruited to the graduate program. – **Thomas Kavanagh**

Newsletter published annually by the Department of French and the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences.

Your comments, suggestions and news are most welcome!

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From the DGS –

This report will come in two installments, as Christopher Miller kindly agreed to replace me as DGS in the spring while I was on leave. My warmest thanks go to Chris for this welcome aid, but most especially for spearheading a new and improved graduate student recruitment effort. I also want to thank Brenda Crocker who has now settled into her role as graduate registrar and who offered me and Chris expert support throughout the year.

Jonathan Cayer and Maryn Stockman chaired the Graduate Association of French Students (GAFS). In addition to coordinating graduate student feedback on all aspects of the program, they were instrumental in assuring the success of the recruitment extravaganza. Owing to the large number of job talks in the department for the various searches, the number of GAFS sponsored talks was smaller than in previous years. The single Chocolate Lecture of the year was given by John Merriman from Yale's History Department: "Émile Henri, the Café Terminus, and the Origins of Modern Terrorism in *fin-de-siècle* Paris."

We continued our very profitable exchange with the École Normale Supérieure, sending three students to Paris as part of the exchange: Tara Golba, Irina Iakounina, and Rachael Sterner. Additionally, Shira Weidenbaum spent the year as an auditor at the École. In return, we welcomed four students from France: Clarisse Barthélemy, Émilie Chauve, Pierre Haroche, and Julie Simoneau. Last summer, the department also sent Madison Moore to study at Bryn Mawr College's Avignon summer program.

In the fall, four students submitted dissertations: Jeffrey Boyd, "Revolutionary Queerness: Balzac, Baudelaire, Proust" (Peter Brooks); Scott Hiley, "Usury and the Economics of Literature in Medieval France" (Howard Bloch); John Lytle, "Fantastic Literature and Historical Discourse in the French Romantic Period" (Ora Avni); and Larysa Smirnova, "Roland Barthes in Search of an Epic Modernity" (Peter Brooks). Congratulations to all these (former!) students.

Several graduate students held prestigious fellowships last year. Alexandra Gueydan had a Whiting Fellowship, Jeffrey Leichman had a Leylan Fellowship and was a fellow at the Whitney Humanities Center; and Claire McMurray and Rachael Sterner had Beinecke Summer Fellowships.

Thanks to the Alumni Fund, a number of our graduate students were able to deliver papers at conferences: Claire McMurray (20th and 21st-Century French and Francophone Conference), Jessica DeVos (Columbia University French Graduate Student Conference), Shira Weidenbaum (Sixteenth Century Society and Conference), Alexandra Gueydan (Northeast MLA), Irina Iakounina (MAPACA), and Jeffrey Leichman (ASECS). I want to thank everyone who has contributed to the Alumni Fund for helping to provide an essential element in the professional training of our graduate students.

The department always offers a wide array of courses, but this year saw a bumper crop of graduate seminars. In fall the offerings

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IN MEMORIAM: FACULTY

Jean Boorsch, the Street Professor Emeritus of Romance Languages who pioneered a total-immersion method to train Americans in French, died at his home on March 23, 2008, at the age of 102.

A Yale faculty member for 40 years, Boorsch was among a group of French compatriots who brought international acclaim to Yale's Department of French.

Born in a small French town near the Belgian border, Boorsch could recall the arrival of British and German troops in his village during WWI. He witnessed the first Armistice Day in Paris on November 11, 1918, saw the participants in the Versailles Conference, and recalled the arrival of Charles Lindbergh after his historic flight in 1927.

In the 1920s he was a top pupil in the French school system, graduating from the prestigious Lycée Condorcet. For his mastery of ancient Greek, he won first prize in all of France and its colonies as well as a Presidential Award.

In the summer of 1929, speaking little English, he left for the United States to accept a position in French language and literature at Middlebury College. He remained there until 1934, with the exception of a two-year leave to return to France for military service.

He began teaching at Yale in 1935, published his seminal work on Descartes in 1937, and was named full professor in the 1940s. During WWII, he instructed military units in the French language, using an immersion technique that he



published in 1944 as "The Méthode Orale de Français." In later years, he made long-playing records to accompany the course, which ultimately evolved into the "French in Action" course taught in many secondary schools and universities. After his retirement, the course became the core of a series of 24 half-hour television "classes" directed by Yale colleague Pierre Capretz. Boorsch taught advanced literature as well as language courses. One of the authors on whom he focused was his schoolmate Sartre.

From the 1930s to the 1970s he devoted many summers to the French Language School at Middlebury. He also taught ancient Greek, in French, at the Lycée Français in New York City for a number of years from the 1940s through the 1960s. He lectured widely and frequently published articles. He was awarded the title of Chevalier of the Légion d'Honneur by the French government in 1967.

Boorsch had a passion for gardening that began with the "Victory" garden he planted during WWII in his backyard in North Haven. He and his wife, Louise, who died in 1997, enjoyed traveling, twice circling the globe. He spent his later years primarily in reading, and enjoying visits from his children and grandchildren.

In 2006 Boorsch returned to the Department of French for a 100th birthday celebration. The Department has established a memorial fund to honor his memory.

Adapted from Yale Bulletin & Calendar and other sources

From the DUS –

In 2007–08, we saw five seniors through to the successful completion of the French major: Alexandra Alston (with International Studies), Tess Borden, Jacqueline Jove, Amanda McAuliffe, and Paul Spera (with Theatre Studies). Our congratulations to them all! Special congratulations are due to Ms. Jove and Mr. Spera, who graduated with Distinction in the Major. Alongside our specialists, dozens more graduated having taken at least two upper-level French classes at Yale.

A requirement of the French major is to write an extended essay (in French or English) on a subject chosen by the student. This year's topics represent a variety of interests and approaches to the study of French: Alex Alston: "The Duality of Baudelaire: L'art pour l'art / Political Art" (Maurie Samuels); Tess Borden: "Counterterrorism and the Muslim Other" (Michael Wishnie from the Law School); Jacqueline Jove: "Nouveau roman et musique contemporaine chez A. Robbe-Grillet et H. Goebbels: une étude comparative à travers *La Jalousie* et *La Reprise*" (Farid Laroussi); Amanda McAuliffe: "Realizing an Impossible Dream: French Women Writers and the Myth of *Ecriture Féminine*" (Jean-

Jacques Poucel); Paul Spera: "C Claudel au XX^e siècle: chronique d'une récupération" (Jean-Jacques Poucel).

This year the Scott Prize for essays in French was divided into two categories: in the upper division, Liam Andrew ('08) won first prize for his essay entitled "L'art des bruits et la musique futuriste," with Emily Bala ('08) and Lisa Sun ('10) being awarded second and third prizes respectively. At the introductory level, first prize went to one of our majors, Jonathan Berken ('10), for an essay entitled "Dans le ventre de l'éléphant," with Scott Griffen ('10) as runner-up. The Montaigne Prize for proficiency in spoken and written French was won by Geoffrey Moseley ('10). Heather Stoller ('09), Priscilla Adipa ('08), and Samantha Xiao ('08) shared second prize.

Mr. Berken is also the driving force behind the successful launch of a magnificent new French magazine, *L'Amuse-Bouche*, funded by the department, the first volume of which appeared in the spring. Entirely in French (with illustrations), it combines feature articles, creative writing and criticism written by undergraduates and graduate students on subjects as diverse as the American presidential elections and the fabrication of champagne. We are all eagerly anticipating the next installment! – **Julia Prest**

From the DGS *continued from page 3*

were "Old French" (Howard Bloch), "Libertins et philosophes" (Thomas Kavanagh), "Modernity" (Maurice Samuels), "Meaning and Figuration in Modern and Contemporary Poetry" (Jean-Jacques Poucel), and "Postcolonial Theory and Its Literature" (Christopher Miller), followed in spring by "The Old French Fabliaux" (Howard Bloch), "Comedy and Comic Theory from Corneille to Beaumarchais" (Julia Prest), "French Film: History, Theory, Pedagogy" (Thomas Kavanagh), "Readings in Critical Theory" (Catherine Labio), and "Creole Identities and Fictions" (Christopher Miller).

– **Maurice Samuels**

As usual, the second semester was largely devoted to the selection and recruitment of next year's incoming class. But this time we tried a completely different approach to recruiting. Instead of bringing prospective students to campus in a haphazard manner, we decided to invite them all at once and put on a coordinated, organized program. To our delight, all were able to come. We put them all up at the Omni, thus eliminating the longstanding imposition on the generous hospitality of our current students. Our extravaganza was supported by the Henri Peyre Fellowship Fund. I am pleased to report that there were no pot luck meals. Prospective students – who were each assigned a student host and a faculty host –

were treated to an overview of our program, met privately with professors, had a visit to the Beinecke, and toured the campus. The high point was a panel discussion in which four professors discussed their work; a festive dinner ensued.

We succeeded in recruiting the following students (*below*), including a record number of admittees to the joint PhD program in French and African American Studies: Julia Elsky (Barnard College); Catherine Fox, in the joint program (Tulane University); Kristen Graves, also in the joint program (and also from Tulane!);

Annabel Kim (Williams College); Maren Lackner (yet again, from Tulane! with a master's from the Sorbonne); Mary Anne Lewis (Notre Dame, with an MA from the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities).

Our job placement efforts this year resulted in sweeping success: Roxanna Curto will be assistant professor of French at Illinois State University; Alexandra Gueydan will be assistant professor at Swarthmore; Jeffrey Leichman will be teaching at Sara Lawrence; and Brian Reilly will be a Mellon Fellow at the Whitney Humanities Center. Congratulations to them all!

Tara Golba won a Whiting Fellowship for 2008–2009, to support her work on a dissertation entitled "Knowledge and the Narrative Trail: Post/colonial lines of inquiry and the questioning of epistemologies in Francophone narratives of investigation."

Second semester PhDs and their dissertations: Jeffrey Leichman, "Acting Up: Performing Social Mobility in 18th Century Theatre" (Tom Kavanagh); Laure Marcellesi, "From Noble Savage to Colonial Subject: Tahiti in 18th-Century French Literature" (Tom Kavanagh and Chris Miller); and Brian Reilly, "The Hidden Optics of Medieval French Literature," (Howard Bloch). The Marguerite Peyre Prize was awarded to Jeff Leichman.

Last but not least, I want to say that it was a pleasure to work with Brenda Crocker last semester; I am grateful for all her support. – **Christopher L. Miller**



Faculty News —

Diane Charney taught a record number of French 139 students in Paris this summer, adapting the curriculum to take full advantage of being in France. She reports that she really enjoyed having a chance to work closely with Françoise Schneider to build on the previous successes of our programs. Diane continues as Bass Writing Tutor and Mellon Forum Fellow of Timothy Dwight College, and as violist with the Jonathan Edwards Chamber Players. On a personal note, Diane is excited that she will become a belle-mère when son Noah weds the wonderful Urska Jeran this fall in her native Slovenia. Noah is founder of a Rome-based non-profit foundation to prevent and fight art crime (www.artcrime.info).

In fall 2007 **Ned Duval** returned to the freshman great books course Directed Studies, teaching one section and giving the general lectures on Virgil and Dante. In the spring all his energy went into a new course on French poetry and music from the Trouvères to Pierre Boulez. He also gave the keynote address for a graduate-student conference on “Architectures” at Brown University.

Catherine Labio hosted an international symposium on *The Great Mirror of Folly*, a Dutch folio published shortly after the Mississippi and South Sea Bubbles of 1720 that documented the financial and cultural history of the first great international stock market crash. The conference, held April 17-19, 2008, was co-hosted by William Goetzmann and K. Geert Rouwenhorst of the International Center for Finance at the Yale School of Management and Timothy Young of the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library.

Thomas M. Kavanagh is hard at work on his book project, “Enlightened Pleasures: Eighteenth-Century France and the New Epicureanism,” which he hopes to complete during his research leave this fall. In March of 2008, he was invited to give a presentation on Rousseau in the Stanford French Department’s Distinguished Lecture Series. His “John Law and the Rhetoric of Calculation” will appear in the soon to be published *Festschrift*

for L. Patrick Lee and his “Roulette and the Ancien Régime of Gambling” will be published in *Nottingham French Studies*.

Christopher L. Miller’s book *The French Atlantic Triangle: Literature and Culture of the Slave Trade* was released by Duke University Press in January. In June, he gave a keynote address in the International Slavery Museum in Liverpool at the annual meeting of the Society of French Studies of the United Kingdom. He is completing contributions to an MLA teaching volume on Madame de Duras’s *Ourika* and to a volume on “Global French” to be published by Columbia University Press, and he will be part of a panel on “la littérature-monde” at the San Francisco MLA. He was acting DGS in French in the Spring and is acting chair of French this fall.

In ’08-’09, **Jean-Jacques Poucel** is teaching seminars on French women filmmakers, modernism and the avant-garde, and Mallarmé. Forthcoming publications include articles on Roussel, Gleize and Montalbetti, as well as a translation of Emmanuel Hocquard’s latest book of poems, *Conditions de lumière*.

In November 2007 **Julia Prest** hosted the annual international conference of the society for interdisciplinary seventeenth-century French studies (SE17), with support from the department, the Beinecke Library, and the Whitney Humanities Center. She also published a critical edition of the play “La Devineresse,” by T. Corneille and Donneau de Vise (with MHRA) and an article on the same play in a special edition (on witchcraft) of the *Forum for Modern Language Studies*.

Alyson Waters received a three-month residency grant (bourse aux traducteurs étrangers) for 2008 from the Centre national du livre to translate Albert Cossery’s novel *Un complot de saltimbanques*. This translation and her translation of Cossery’s *Les couleurs de l’infamie* are forthcoming from New Directions. Her translation of René Belletto’s most recent novel, *Coda* (P.O.L., 2005), is forthcoming from the University of Nebraska Press.

Below: The Yale Department of French, Fall 2008



News from Alumni —

Sahar Amer '94 PhD writes, "I am still at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill teaching both French literature and Arabic cultures. I have just been promoted to full professor effective 7/1/08, and my second book, entitled *Crossing Borders: Love between Women in Medieval French and Arabic Literatures*, is forthcoming from the University of Pennsylvania Press in June 2008. In spring 2009, I will be a Visiting Professor of French at Duke University."

Patricia Armstrong '00 PhD writes, "I have exciting news. I adopted a 3-year-old boy, Yohannes Lemley Armstrong, from Ethiopia on April 3 of this year. He's a loving and extremely social boy who loves books, which should warm the heart of everyone in the department."

Karin (Harman) Bohleke '96 PhD was appointed the director of the Shippensburg University Fashion Archives and Museum, in Shippensburg, PA, in June of 2007. She is currently in charge of a historical clothing, accessories, and fashion ephemera collection consisting of over 14,000 items dating from the late 18th to the 20th centuries. In addition to mounting two major exhibits during the 2007-2008 academic year, she has also been serving as an assistant professor of French in Shippensburg's Modern Language department. Karin continues to lecture and publish on clothing topics as well as teaching historical sewing and dressmaking techniques. Along with her husband, she teaches vintage social dance (1840-1925) and proctors balls (wearing reproduction period gowns of her own making) in the Gettysburg area.

Karl Britto '98 PhD referred us to Berkeley's website which announced that the associate professor in French and Comparative Literature and leader in the emerging field of Francophone literary studies was a recipient of the university's prestigious and highly selective 2008 Distinguished Teaching Award.

Matilda Bruckner '74 PhD writes, "I'm finishing a hectic but happy year of teaching at Boston College and Harvard. My book *Chrétien Continued: A Study of the Conte du Graal and its Verse Continuations* will be published by Oxford University Press this coming December, so I've been released to work on a variety of other things: animals in the Lais and Fables of Marie de France, Marcabru's chansons de croisade, and prophecies and 'plaintes' in the Roman de Troie. Eventually I will no doubt head back to Chrétien to work on lions and dragons in Yvain and think some more about the Grail romance and Jewish Troyes."

William Calin '57 BA, '61 PhD is Graduate Research Professor at the University of Florida. He just published *The Twentieth-Century Humanist Critics: From Spitzer to Frye* (Toronto, 2007). It contains essays on Spitzer, Curtius, Auerbach, Albert Beguin, Jean Rousset, CS Lewis, FO Matthiessen, and Frye, plus an extended discussion ending with the author's vision of the literary canon.

Bill Carlson '73 PhD reports that he and Lonni Briggs '72 MPhil have temporarily relocated to the San Francisco Bay Area.

Mary Ann Caws '56 MA writes, "I am still teaching in the departments of English,

French, and comparative literature (and the film program) at the Graduate School of the City University of New York, and loving it. My translation of Paul Eluard's *Capital of Pain* was published in 2006 and *Robert Desnos: Essential Poems and Writings* in 2007. Coming this fall is my book *Provençal Cooking: Savoring the Simple Life in France*, about living in a cabanon in the Vaucluse, which we originally chose because of wanting to live near René Char, beloved of our whole family. This past November, I married Dr. Boyce Bennett, and we live in New York and in our rustic cabanon, when we can."

Catherine Cusset '91 PhD is still living in Manhattan with her husband and daughter. She taught a class in creative writing at NYU in the fall. Her ninth novel, *Un brillant avenir*, will be published by Gallimard in September. *Un brillant avenir* is the story of a woman who escaped Ceausescu's Romania with her Jewish husband and son, and of what happened to her American dream.

Irene Finel-Honigman '73 PhD writes, "I continue to teach at the School of International and Public Affairs at Columbia University. I am now with the International Finance Policy section, and I teach courses on international banking with emphasis on the European Union and France. I am writing a book, *A Cultural History of Finance* (Routledge, 2009). After very serious health problems in 2006, I am very glad to be able to pursue these projects and to continue teaching. As I live in Manhattan, I enjoy the many benefits and activities of the Yale Club. I would be delighted to hear from Yale friends and colleagues."

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IN MEMORIAM: ALUMNI

Janet Altman '73 PhD died on July 18, 2008, at the age of 63. She taught French theater and 18th-century studies in the Department of French and Italian at the University of Iowa for 29 years. She was also a recognized authority on letters and epistolary novels and traveled extensively to research and lecture on this subject. A lifelong lover of theater, dance, and music, she had recently taken great pleasure in ballroom dancing. She was a longtime supporter of the Riverside Theater in Iowa City and of Iowa Public Television.

William N. Randell '38 BA, '42 MA died on September 13, 2007, at the age of 92. After receiving a second master's degree at Middlebury College, he began his teaching career at the Huntington School in Boston. When he retired in 1970, he

was headmaster. He was a member of the School Masters Club and served as chairman of the Evaluations Committee for the New England Association of Schools and Colleges.

Ralph M. Vitello '80 PhD died on September 11, 2007, at the age of 57. He was the longtime chair of the East Stroudsburg University of Pennsylvania foreign languages department. Prior to coming to East Stroudsburg in 1989, he taught at Yale, UCLA, and the University of California at Berkeley. He was a popular professor, known for his desire to help students from working-class backgrounds. A member of Phi Beta Kappa, he had received two National Endowment for the Humanities fellowships as well as a Georges Lucey Fellowship for research at the Sorbonne.

Alumni news *continued from page 6*

Julia B. Frey '77 PhD writes from Vallauris on the French Riviera, "I'm still unpacking boxes and Paris still feels more like home, but at last I've been able to get back to the book from my 9/11/2001 diary, and I'm writing a monthly column on French language for *France Today* called "Amuse-Bouche."

Peter Hallward '97 PhD continues to teach philosophy at Middlesex University in London (UK) and last year published a book on recent Haitian politics called *Damming the Flood: Haiti, Aristide and the Politics of Containment* (Verso, 2007).

Bruce Hayes '01 PhD was recently awarded tenure at the University of Kansas. His book, *Rabelais's Radical Farce: Late Medieval Comic Theater and Its Function in Rabelais*, is forthcoming from Ashgate Press.

Robert P. Holley '71 PhD writes, "While I could, I don't intend to retire anytime soon from my position as professor of Library and Information Science at Wayne State University. My research interests are the out-of-print book market, intellectual freedom, and popular culture. With funding from the Canadian government, I recently published a major study on Canadian modifications to American subject access tools. I continue to review books in French and about French library topics. While not normal for a

professor, I select library materials for the French faculty, in part because I teach collection development and use this as an opportunity to remain involved. To keep up my language skills, I listen daily to the local francophone radio station from Windsor, Canada and do my best to take a vacation each year to a francophone country."

Eve Katz '66 PhD writes, "My current work is of two very different types: freelance writing and acting. Most of my articles are on health- or education-related matters. I've appeared in several commercials and do role playing for legal and medical training, portraying healthy witnesses in the former activity and sick people in the latter. The only Shakespeare I've done was a Lady Macbeth monologue in an acting class! And no Racine yet..."

Erec R. Koch '88 PhD is finishing his first year in a new position: Professor of French and Head of the Department of Modern Foreign Languages and Literatures, University of Tennessee-Knoxville.

Marina Kundu '86 MA spent several years living and working in Switzerland before moving to Pennsylvania, where she taught at the University of Pittsburgh and at Chatham College. It was at Chatham that she first moved into higher education administration, which quickly became her main career

interest. She relocated to Paris with her husband Yves Citton in the fall of 2000 and has been working at Sciences Po ever since: as Dean of Undergraduate Studies, then as founding Director of the Master of Public Affairs, and currently as Deputy Director of International Affairs."

Kathryn Lachman '98 BA/MA writes, "I have accepted a tenure-track position at UMass Amherst in the departments of French and Comparative Literature. I completed my PhD at Princeton this spring with a dissertation entitled "The Music of Voice: Transnational Encounters between Music, Theory and Fiction" on the influence of musical forms on 20th-century literary theory and on the work of Assia Djebar, Maryse Conde, and J. M. Coetzee."

Joyce O. Lowrie '65 PhD is now Professor Emerita and Fellow at the Susan B. and William K. Wasch Center at Wesleyan University, Middletown, Connecticut. Her most recent book, *Sightings: Mirrors in Texts – Texts in Mirrors*, has been accepted for publication by Rodopi and will soon appear in print.

Thomas Martin '03 MPhil writes, "Since leaving New Haven I have spent several years teaching language at Columbia and even one year at Trevor Day School on

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Yale French Studies Seeks Proposals

Yale French Studies, the oldest English-language journal in the United States devoted to French and Francophone literature and culture, is seeking proposals for new volumes. Each volume is conceived and organized by a guest editor or editors around a particular theme or author. Interdisciplinary approaches are particularly welcome, as are contributions from scholars and writers from around the world. *Yale French Studies* is published twice yearly by Yale University Press (www.yale.edu/yup) and may be accessed on JSTOR (*see box at right*).

Guidelines for proposal submissions are also available on the department's website: <http://www.yale.edu/french/studies.html>. For further information contact Alyson Waters, Managing Editor (alyson.waters@yale.edu).

YALE FRENCH STUDIES AND JSTOR CELEBRATE TEN YEARS



Yale French Studies and JSTOR are proud to mark 2008 as the ten-year anniversary of our collaboration to preserve and to make available the journal's full back run. Back issues of *Yale French Studies*, from its first issue in 1948 up until the most recent two years, are available through JSTOR's Arts & Sciences I and Language & Literature Collections.

We are delighted to be working together to make the literature available and look forward to the next ten years!

For more information on how to access *Yale French Studies* through JSTOR, please contact: support@jstor.org.

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the West Side of Manhattan. Now comes the curious departure from our world of French: I am beginning a two-year postbaccalaureate program in the hopes of a medical school acceptance in approximately two years. I plan on practicing psychiatry – I suppose ‘humanities’ can take on broader contexts.”

R. Matilde Mésavage ’79 PhD writes, “I’ll be going on sabbatical next term: first to Limoges where I’ll be presenting a paper on the Moroccan writer Beroho, then to Japan, where I’ll be continuing my Japanese studies in Kanazawa. I am interested in the work of Aki Shimzaki, who writes in French, but whose maternal language is Japanese. I am interested to see how the structure, culture, ideas of Japan figure as a palimpsest to the French text. I also continue to coach the singers at the Orlando Opera in their arias. I have published my first two poems and continue to teach yoga as well as study Russian.”

Buford Norman ’71 PhD writes, “I am retired and living in Paris about half the time, writing a book on Racine et la musique and taking advantage of all that is going on in the world of French baroque music (trois opéras de Quinault et Lully à Paris en 2008!). A translation of my book on Quinault’s libretti is supposed to appear late this year. We will be in Paris from August 2008 until July 2009, so get in touch if you are passing through.”

Henry Pillsbury ’58 BA, ’60 MA writes, “In October I was named Officier de l’Ordre National des Arts et Lettres by Alain Crombecque, Directeur du Festival d’Automne. In January 2008 I again performed *La dernière bande/Krapp’s Last Tape*, this time in Marseille. ‘*Sous les traits de Krapp, un rôle qu’il a déjà interprété il y a 30 ans, Henry Pillsbury excelle*’ (*La Marseillaise*).”

Barbara Pilvin ’76 MA writes, “For 22 years I’ve been at the Free Library of Philadelphia, helping students and others doing historical and genealogical research and giving classes in using the Free Library’s genealogical resources. As anyone who’s even begun climbing his or her family tree knows, genealogy is addictive, so in addition to helping other people satisfy their own (and their relatives’) cravings, I’ve been doing research on my own family. For the most part the results have been delightful. When I’m not untangling the twigs and

branches of family trees, I’m writing articles for health-related organizations, ‘cooking’ manuscripts, singing in the University of Pennsylvania Choral Society, and indulging three cats.”

Kezia Raffel ’90 MA writes, “My sixth son was born this past February. Shloime joins his older brothers Yitzchak, Aryeh, Reuven, Yehuda, and Yosef Chaim. I am still working as the in-house editor at Gefen Publishing House in Jerusalem.”

Christopher Rivers ’89 PhD recently finished a three-year term as chair of the French department at Mount Holyoke College. His translation and edition of *My Life and Battles*, a memoir by Jack Johnson, the first black heavyweight champion of the world, was published in fall 2007. The book originally appeared in French in 1914 and had never before been translated into English. Johnson, who has been called “the first African-American pop culture icon,” is a seminal figure in African-American history and was a great favorite of French boxing fans and the general public in the years leading up to World War I.

William Roberts ’55 PhD presented a paper at the 17th-C. International Conference at Oxford, which led to his discovery of two personal versions of a visiting poet’s letter and ode to King Charles I and Henriette-Marie in 1631. His “Saint-Amant and the Caroline Monarchs: Unknown Manuscripts” was published in *Theatre, Fiction, and Poetry in the French Long Seventeenth Century* (Peter Lang, 2007). His “Further Manuscripts of Saint-Amant” appeared as one of the memorial essays to Roger Duchêne on the website *Web 17*, founded by Duchêne. At the NASSCFL 39th Conference at the University of Nebraska he organized the double session on “Bibliothèques et Erudition.”

Sylvie Romanowski ’69 PhD just had an article published: “Un étranger pas comme les autres: la voix du maître,” in a special issue of *Studies on Voltaire and the Eighteenth Century*, called *The Nature of Rousseau’s Rêveries: physical, human, aesthetic*. Vol. 2008:3, 165-78.

English Showalter ’57 BA, ’64 PhD writes, “In retirement, Elaine and I are spending our time about half in London and half in Washington, DC. I am still working with the team of editors producing the *Correspondance de Madame de Graffigny*. Volume 12 is due to be published later this year.”

Joseph Sungolowsky ’63 PhD teaches 19th-century French Literature in the Master of Arts in French program at Queens College, City University of New York. He also serves as graduate advisor for the program. He wrote “La tentation dans *Le Père Goriot*” which appeared on the website of the Association Française des Enseignants de Français on October 24, 2007. He is also the author of “André Neher (1914-1988) et Israël” published in *La Pensée juive contemporaine*, ed. Danielle Delmaire et Didier Pollfeyt (Editions Parole et Silence, 2008) and of “Hidden Children in France (1940-1944): A Memoir,” *The Hidden Child*, XVI (2008).

Virginia (Ginny) Swain ’78 PhD writes, “I will be officially retired as of the end of June, after 30 years in the Dartmouth College Department of French and Italian. I plan to take a couple of years off, to travel and spend time with the family, while assessing possible next projects. I’m thinking of doing translations but may also continue my interest in the grotesque.”

Dick Terdiman ’68 PhD, Professor of Literature and the History of Consciousness at the University of California, Santa Cruz, continues as the coordinator of *FlashPoint*, the University of California Press series in Literary Studies. He has just finished a term on the *PMLA* editorial board and will continue for a 3-year term on the MLA Publications Committee. He has essays coming out in *Novel*; in *Comparative Studies of South Asia, Africa and the Middle East*; in a collective volume to be entitled *Mapping Memory* (ed. Susannah Radstone and Bill Schwartz); and in the proceedings of the Romantikkolloquium, Universität Bonn, Germany, October 2005. In progress are two books, on cultural time and on globalization and the ideological arguments concerning it; and two essays, one on Impressionism, the other on Goethe’s *Egmont*.

Richard Watts ’98 PhD writes, “This spring, I was appointed Associate Dean for International Programs at Tulane. I also have written two articles that will appear shortly: ‘Towards an Ecocritical Postcolonialism: Val Plumwood’s Environmental Culture in Dialogue with Patrick Chamoiseau’ in the *Journal of Postcolonial Writing* and a chapter titled ‘Negritude, Présence Africaine, Race’ for the volume *Postcolonial Thought in the Francophone World* edited by Charles Forsdick and David Murphy (Liverpool University Press, forthcoming late 2008).”