



From the Chair —

A festive reunion of graduate alumni/ae of the Department of French, two international conferences, readings by two contemporary French authors, a lecture series, a film series, and a documentary series, made for an unusually rich year in the Department of French.

On April 4-6 nearly a hundred former students of the graduate program in French returned to the campus to join the faculty, current students, and many friends of the department for three days of parties, banquets, panel discussions, and guided tours to celebrate “Sixty-Five Years of French Studies at Yale.” It was a great pleasure for all of us to welcome back old friends and colleagues, to reminisce about old times and reflect together on the future of our profession. Current students were particularly delighted at the chance to meet so many of their illustrious predecessors, and took great inspiration from their conversations with you, and from the papers they heard. The photographs reproduced in this newsletter, together with the many written responses from those of you who were able to attend, suggest that our celebration was a tremendous success. I hope you have found pleasure in the book of biographical blurbs we prepared in conjunction with the reunion, and that you will visit the department’s web site to view more photographs of the reunion/conference (www.yale.edu/french/events.html).



On April 12, a mere week after the gala reunion, the department hosted a one-day colloquium titled “Theater: Between Text and Performance / Le Théâtre: Entre Textes et Scènes” under the aegis of our “Centre Pluridisciplinaire” funded by the Service Culturel de l’Ambassade de France. The colloquium was organized by our own specialists of theatrical texts and performances, Julia Prest and Donia Mounsef, and featured a presentation by Alain Germain, the Parisian director of many period productions of seventeenth-century plays and operas, a demonstration by the Ken Pierce Baroque Dance Company of Boston, papers by Rebecca Harris-Warrick (Cornell), Josette Féral (Montréal), and Arnaud Rykner (Toulouse), and a round table discussion led by Murray Biggs (Yale).

The year began with another major event of the “Centre Pluridisciplinaire,” a two-day colloquium co-sponsored by the Department of French, the Yale Law School, and the Florence Gould Foundation, titled “Revolutionary Traditions and the Law: France and the United States.” The colloquium featured twelve papers on the parallels and divergences between the world’s only political systems which originated in revolution and survive today. The program for this and all our conferences can be seen on the department’s website.

Our lecture series this year included Didier van Cauwelaert, who spoke to us about his novel *Un aller simple*, and Raymond Federman, who read from his new book, *Le corps de Federman en neuf parties*. We also heard Marie-Hélène Girard (who is *en délégation* at Yale from the Université de Picardie) speak on Théophile Gautier’s art criticism for the l’Exposition Universelle de 1855; Chris Bongie (Queen’s University, Kingston, Ontario) on Hugo’s *Bug-Jargal*; Thierry

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French Alumni Reunion April 4-6, 2003



More images from the reunion can be found throughout this issue...

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Vissoil (European Union Fellow at Yale) on various French proposals for a European monetary unit from 1786 to 2002; Margaret Cohen (NYU) on seafaring manuals and nineteenth-century narrative; Deborah Jenson (Wisconsin) on Napoléon, Toussaint Louverture, and the Haitian Revolution; Frédéric Martel (Attaché Culturel, Boston) on PACS (domestic partnership) in France; Christine Planté (Lyon) on Marceline Desbordes-Valmore; and Beryl Schlossman (Carnegie Mellon) on Baudelaire.

The four students on exchange from the École Normale Supérieure this year — Fabien Cavaillé, Haydée Charbagi, Thomas Wieder, and Bérénice Villa — were a particularly vibrant group who made a wonderful contribution to the life of the department. Among other things they organized a highly successful series of recent documentary films which they were able to obtain through special contacts in France. Three of our own students, meanwhile — Marina Davies, Alexandre Limoges, and Elisa Mader — spent the year at the École Normale, working on their dissertations on (repectively) “character” in the modern novel, decadence, and Saint Nicholas.

The Graduate Association of French Students, under the dynamic co-chairmanship of Laure Marcellesi and Brian Reilly, undertook a major renovation of the graduate student lounge and library this year, repainting and reappointing the room, setting up tables, chairs, sofas, and reviving the old tradition of

the student-run coffee urn. Readers of this newsletter will be happy to learn that they, too, contributed in a crucial way to the improvement of this old space. Thanks to your generous donations to the Graduate Alumni Fund, the department was able to provide the students with a new computer, printer, and scanner to be used in the lounge-library for their teaching and research. All of this has made for a very pleasant place for graduate students to congregate, to work, and to relax.

Congratulations to Ryan Poynter, who won a Traveling Lurey Fellowship to spend the coming year in Martinique researching his dissertation, “Representations of Eroticism in Francophone Caribbean Fiction and Poetry,” and to Joseph Acquisto, to whom the department awarded the Marguerite A. Peyre prize for his fine dissertation, “(Mis)Reading Music: Rewriting French Symbolist Poetry.”

Among the more notable faculty activities during the year: Howard Bloch gave a lecture on the Bayeux Tapestry as part of a special lecture series sponsored by the Yale Graduate School, titled “In the Company of Scholars.” Peter Brooks gave the De Vane lectures this spring on “Visions of the Real.” Chris Miller and Farid Laroussi completed their special issue of Yale French Studies titled *French and Francophone: The Challenge of Expanding Horizons*. And Jean-Jacques Poucel won a Morse Fellowship that will allow him to research his new book on contemporary French poetry next year. Life in the department

was immensely enriched by the presence of our new colleagues Tom Kavanagh and Julia Prest, and irreparably diminished by the death of our beloved colleague Georges May. —

Ned Duval



Participants in the roundtable on “Graduate Studies Today”: Ora Arni '80 PhD, Kathryn Grossman '73 PhD, Armine Mortimer '74 PhD, Joseph Acquisto '03 PhD, Philip Lewis '69 PhD and graduate students Ryan Poynter and Laure Marcellesi.

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Your comments, suggestions and news are most welcome!

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IN MEMORIAM

Georges May

1920-2003

We mourn the death of our colleague, our teacher, and our friend Georges May, who died in his home on February 27. Georges's scholarship on Corneille and Racine, on autobiography and *Les mille et une nuits*, and especially on Diderot and Rousseau, is well known to everyone in our discipline. Even better known to those who have passed through these halls are Georges's wit, his warmth, and his unfailing civility, which have touched us all and which each of us will always treasure.

Georges joined the faculty at Yale in 1946, after serving in both the French and American armies in World War II and completing his studies at the University of Illinois. During his forty-five years on the faculty, and well beyond his involuntary retirement in 1991, Georges was a legendary pedagogue who nurtured and inspired generations of Yale students and commanded our respect, our admiration, and our love. As Dean of Yale College from 1963 to 1971 Georges played a crucial role in bringing about co-education at Yale and in preserving spirit of reasoned calm during the turbulence of the late sixties. Georges also served as chair of the Department of French in 1978-79, as Provost of the University from 1979 to 1981, and as a member of the board of directors of the American Council of Learned Societies from 1979 to

1989. He was a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, of the American Philosophical Society, and of the Union Académique Internationale, over which he presided in 1989-1992.

On April 5, during the Graduate Alumni/ae Reunion of the Department of French, a memorial service was held for Georges in Battell Chapel. Moving tributes and fond reminiscences were offered by our President Richard Levin and our Dean Richard Brodhead, as well as by old friends and colleagues of Georges's: Chuck Porter, Sam Chauncey, Catherine La Farge, Jacques Guicharnaud, John Wilkinson, and Peter Brooks.— **Ned Duval**

From the DUS —

Did you know that 0.5 plus 0.5 does not necessarily equal 1?

It seems that at some point in the course of Yale's 300+-year history, somebody recoiled at the idea of contaminating _ credit in the humanities with _ credit in the sciences. Or vice versa. This is one of the myriad rules and regulations one learns about upon becoming DUS. Unfortunately, the math was not quite so funny when I turned to another set of numbers. Our high enrollments in our first and second-year French courses have, it is true, either grown or remained steady. This, needless to say, is a testament to the truly excellent job done over the years by Pierre Capretz, Ruth Koizim, and Matuku Ngame in chairing these courses, but also, sadly, to the fact that fewer and fewer students get into Yale having studied French. As a result, students are less likely to take advanced classes and go on to become French majors, a situation not helped by the fact that Yale does not allow minors. And in these categories, our numbers are, indeed, down.

Looking at the numbers and consulting with students and faculty members yielded a number of core observations: a) students are interested in studying cultural history and contemporary societies as well as literature; b) there is a strong demand for courses that introduce a whole period, genre, or key issue in French and francophone studies; c) there have been too many

unnecessary barriers to choosing a major in French; d) it has been hard to fulfill all the requirements and study abroad at the same time, especially for those students interested in completing two majors.

On February 18, 2003, the faculty voted to make a number of changes to the major. These include: a) introducing four new "gateway courses" that reflect our growing commitment to interdisciplinary approaches to French studies and to geographical comprehensiveness: French and francophone literary history, French and francophone cultural history, contemporary French and francophone societies and cultures, and literary analysis and theory, b) introducing a clear distinction between introductory and advanced seminars and strengthening our offerings at the introductory level; c) allowing two gateway courses to count towards the major; and d) allowing students who spend part or all of their junior year in a francophone area to count two additional outside credits towards the major (in the case of courses taught in French). We are also going to build on the success of the French section(s) of John Merriman's history courses by adding more French sections to lecture courses taught in the humanities and social sciences and double-titling more courses that originate in

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other departments and programs, such as history, international studies, and film. We are particularly grateful to Dudley Andrew for having reconfigured his New Wave Cinema course in order to be able to add a French section effective next fall.

The changes were eventually approved by the Yale College faculty as a whole and were then announced at a departmental information meeting. Time will tell if these changes will make our seminars and the major in French more attractive to students. For now, faculty members are hard at work designing the new courses and are looking forward to our new and hopefully improved fall and spring line-ups and to working ever more closely with colleagues in other disciplines.

In the meantime, we take pleasure in the achievements of our current crop of graduating seniors: Eva Kaye, Stephanie Marum, and Jennifer Meyer. Both Eva and Jennifer graduated with distinction in the major. Eva also placed first (*ex aequo*) in this year's Montaigne prize competition, graduated cum laude, received distinction in her other major (International Studies), and was elected to Phi Beta Kappa. She has received a Fulbright and will be spending the coming year at the Centre d'Etude d'Afrique Noire (CEAN) of the IEP Bordeaux in order to study the history of French-Senegalese relations. Stephanie and Jenny both wrote their senior essays in French. Stephanie Marum's essay is entitled "De l'Androgynie à l'autonomie : la 'nouvelle adolescente' de Colette" (Susan Weiner, advisor). Jennifer Meyer wrote her essay on Zola: "Au Bonheur des Dames d'Emile Zola: Une explication de l'œuvre selon son ébauche, la correspondance de Zola, et sa réception critique" (Marie-Hélène Girard, advisor). The Henry W. Scott Prize for the best essay in French was awarded



Nancy Vickers '76 PhD, Harry Beskind, Virginia Swain '78 PhD and Kay Bartoletti Woodard '76 PhD.

to Vanessa Wood '05 for her essay on *Morts sans sépulture*, with second place honors going to Justine Isola '05 and Catherine Smith '05. The Montaigne Prize for excellent spoken French was shared by Aaron Feigenbaum '04 and Eva Kaye '03, with second and third-place honors going to Jessica Lawson '03 and Lindsay Gadzik '03.

Thanks in large measure to the efforts of Maria Kosinski, Director of the Summer Language Institute, a growing number of courses are being offered this summer, both in New Haven and Paris: Elementary and Intermediate French (Matuku Ngame and Anne Ambrogelly), Intensive Intermediate and Advanced French (in New Haven and Paris, taught by Ryan Poynter and Joseph Acquisto), Advanced Language Practice (Françoise Schneider), Translation (Alyson Waters), Americans in Paris: Parisian Culture

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Yale French Studies

Yale French Studies continues to offer what we hope are volumes of interest to both a broad reading public and a more specialized audience. Since the last Newsletter, volume 102, "Belgian Memories," edited by Catherine Labio, and volume 103, "French and Francophone: The Challenge of Expanding Horizons," edited by Farid Laroussi and Christopher L. Miller (PhD '83), have appeared. Both these volumes emphasize the Yale French Department's commitment to those "expanding horizons," which are not only geographical, but disciplinary as well. Forthcoming volumes will take us back to the Hexagon, at least for a short stay: Volume 104 will be on philosopher Emmanuel Levinas, edited by Thomas Trezise (PhD '87), and 105 on Georges Perec, edited by Warren F. Motte, Jr. and Jean-Jacques Poucel.



Richard Terdiman '68 PhD and Karl Britto '98 PhD.

Please continue to check our website (<http://research.yale.edu/frenchstudies>) for information on available past issues, how to order individual volumes, and how to subscribe, and for news about upcoming volumes.

Alyson Waters

Managing Editor

Most recent issues available from Yale University Press:

Yale French Studies 103: "French and Francophone: The Challenge of Expanding Horizons," ed. Farid Laroussi and Christopher L. Miller, Spring 2003

Yale French Studies 102: "Belgian Memories," ed. Catherine Labio, Fall 2002.

Yale French Studies 101: "Fragments of Revolution," ed. Caroline Weber and Howard G. Lay, Spring 2002.

Yale French Studies 100: "France/USA: The Cultural Wars," ed. Ralph Sarkonak, Fall 2001.

Yale French Studies 99: "Lyotard, Time and Judgment," ed. Robert Harvey and Lawrence Schehr, Spring 2001.

Graduate Program —

Dissertations Completed, 2002-03

Fall:

- Jeremy Sabol, “Fables of Knowledge: Descartes and Seventeenth-Century Epistemological Fiction” (Françoise Jaouën).
Leon Sachs, “*La Belle Équivoque*: Science, Literature and Education Reform in France, 1880-1914” (Ora Avni).

Spring:

- Joseph Acquisto, “(Mis)Reading Music: Rewriting French Symbolist Poetry” (Naomi Schor, Edwin Duval, Jean-Jacques Poucel).
James Austin, “The Politics of Pastiche from Proust to French Film” (Ora Avni).
Karina Jeronimides, “Spectacle and Performance: Heroines in the Eighteenth-Century French Novel” (Charles Porter).

Recent Employment

- Joseph Acquisto: Assistant Professor of French, University of Vermont (beginning Fall 2003).
James Austin: Visiting Assistant Professor of French, Colgate College (2002-2003); Assistant Professor of French, Connecticut College (beginning Fall 2003).
Joseph Mai: Visiting Assistant Professor, Tulane University (beginning Fall 2003).
Rebecca Ruquist: Assistant Professor, Florida State University (beginning Fall 2003).
Jeremy Sabol: Academic Technology Specialist, Center for Teaching and Learning, Stanford University (since 2002).
Leon Sachs: Assistant Professor of French, Davidson College (since 2002).

Support for the Graduate Program

It gives me very great pleasure to announce the creation of the **James King Fund for French Studies**, made possible by a very generous gift from James King (MA '56) of Hong Kong. The fund will allow the Department of French to sponsor conferences, colloquia, and lectures that will enhance the intellectual life of the Department and make our field better known to a wider audience. We are all extremely grateful to Mr. King for his many years of extraordinary generosity to the Department, culminating with this new gift that will continue to benefit the Department for generations to come.

I am also pleased to announce the creation of the **Naomi Schor Memorial Lecture Fund**, made possible by an initiative from the Faculty Women Forum of Yale, by seed grants from Yale President Richard Levin and Provost Alison Richard, and by individual donations from hundreds of Naomi's friends and admirers. Beginning this coming fall, the fund will be used to sponsor special lectures on French, feminism, and women's studies. — **Ned Duval**

New Graduate Students — Class of 2009

- Sara Gibson (Bryn Mawr)
Tara Golba (Boston University)
Irina Iakounina (Florida State University)
Rachel Sterner (Ursinus College)



Matilde Bruckner '74 PhD, Alyson Waters and Mary Ann Coxes '56 MA.

Graduate Seminars in 2002-2003

Fall

- Old French (Howard Bloch)
Literature, Film, and Justice (Shoshana Felman)
Novel and Society in 18th Century France (Thomas Kavanagh)
'Character' – 'Person' – 'Identity' (Peter Brooks)
Reading/Writing (after) Mallarmé (Jean-Jacques Poucel)
LeRécit (Ora Avni)
Postcolonial Theory and Its Literature (Christopher L. Miller)
Popular Culture, *culture populaire*, *politique culturelle* (Susan Weiner)

Spring

- Stylistics and Rhetoric (Ora Avni)
Mythology and Renewal in French Theater (Donia Mounsef)
Literature and Psychoanalysis (Shoshana Felman)
Le Roman de la Rose (Howard Bloch)
Poésie Lyrique à la Renaissance (Edwin Duval)
The Enlightenment and its Legacy (Catherine Labio)
Hazard and Culture (Thomas Kavanagh)
From One Congo to Another: Literature and Culture in Central Africa (Christopher L. Miller)



Liliame Greene '69 PhD, Catherine Lafarge '66 PhD, William Carlson '73 PhD and Linda Jenkins '91 PhD.

and the Literary Imagination (in Paris, taught by Lauren Pinzka), and French for Reading Knowledge (Brooke Donaldson).

It has not been all work and no play, however. We are particularly grateful to three of our visitors from the Ecole Normale, Fabien Cavaillé, Haydée Charbagi, and Thomas Wieder, for having organized a wonderful year-long documentary film festival that was a very big hit with a wide cross-section of the Yale community. Undergraduates have demonstrated their knack for initiatives as well. Nicola Dembitz and the other members of *Faux Pas*, the French Social Society at Yale, have organized a number of events, including a *quinzaine culturelle* with the theme *Les Liaisons dangereuses*. Natalia Oberti Noguera, a literature major, has launched a new undergraduate publication, *Rom: The Yale Romance Language Literary Magazine*. Its inaugural issue came out in the spring, thanks to a dedicated group of undergraduates, including three French editors: Aaron Feigenbaum, Alexandra Grant, and Marc Michael.

I want to thank the instructors, graduate students, and other members of the Yale community, who have taken the time to host French tables: Joseph Acquisto, Jeffrey Boyd, Brooke Donaldson, Vincent Giroud, Ruth Koizim, Nomi Lazar, Laure Marcellesi, Thomas Martin, Yuliy Masinovsky, Samuel Sigg, and Agnieszka Tworek.

Special thanks are owed to the members of the undergraduate curriculum review committee for courses in the 138-176 range: Diane Charney, Maria Kosinski, Donia Mounsef, Lauren Pinzka, Jean-Jacques Poucel, Julia Prest, Françoise Schneider, and Susan Weiner. Their help has been invaluable in drafting the proposed changes to the new curriculum and major. So was the support of the current and previous Chairs, Ned Duval and

Chris Miller. I also want to thank Pierre Capretz, Ruth Koizim, Maria Kosinski, Matuku Ngame, Lauren Pinzka, and Françoise Schneider for their review of courses in the 115-131 range.

I would like to conclude by expressing my gratitude to Ruth Koizim, without whom I would not have known how to begin to answer many a student's e-mail, and who works tirelessly as our resident study abroad adviser and as the person in charge of determining proficiency levels; to Maria Kosinski, Jean-Jacques Poucel, and Françoise Schneider for having selected the recipients of the Montaigne and Scott prizes; to Matuku Ngame, for his continued coordination of our pedagogy series; to our visiting instructors from the ENS, Fabien Cavaillé, Haydée Charbagi, Bérénice Vila, and Thomas Wieder, who brought their enthusiasm and unique perspectives to French 125, 175, and 176; to the members of the Department of Comparative Literature, my other departmental home, particularly the Chair, Michael Holquist, the DUS, Pericles Lewis, and the DGS, Cyrus Hamlin, for having gone easy on me during my first year as DUS



of French; to Ned Duval, for his unfailing commitment to the work of the department and for being a constant and much trusted source of advice or support; and finally to Shirley Gaddy and Agnès Bolton, without whom my work would have been unmanageable. Their efficiency, kindness, and continued cooperation are enormous assets to everyone in the department. — **Catherine Labio**

Undergraduate courses taught, Department of French, 2002-03

In French

Elementary and Intermediate French (Matuku Ngame and staff)
Intensive French (Pierre Capretz and staff)
Intermediate and Advanced French (Ruth Koizim and staff)
Advanced Language Practice (Françoise Schneider and staff)
Intensive Advanced Language Practice (Diane Charney)
Advanced Culture and Conversation
(Susan Weiner and staff — Fall)
(Julia Prest and staff — Spring)
Introduction to French Literature
(Jean-Jacques Poucel and staff— Fall)
(Lauren Pinzka and staff — Spring)
Introduction to Literary Analysis (Donia Mounsef)
Translation (Alyson Waters)
Introduction to Francophone African and Caribbean Literature
(Christopher L. Miller)
History of French Cinema (Thomas Kavanagh)
Introduction to French Poetry (Edwin Duval)
Theater in the Early Reign of Louis XIV (Julia Prest)
Theater and Politics in Modern France (Donia Mounsef)
Introduction to Medieval French Literature (Howard Bloch)

Art and Literature in Nineteenth-Century France
(Marie-Hélène Girard)
The Twentieth-Century Novel: Non-French Writers Writing in
French (Alyson Waters)
Censorship and Notoriety in Contemporary France
(Susan Weiner)
Exoticism in the Enlightenment (Thomas Kavanagh)
Writer, Text and Public in
Nineteenth-Century France
(Joseph Acquisto)

In English

Literature, Film and Justice
(Shoshana Felman)
Modern French Novel in English
Translation (Ora Avni)
Literature and Psychoanalysis
(Shoshana Felman)
Literature of the French Slave
Trade (Christopher L. Miller)



Jacques Guicharnaud



Jeffrey Mehlman '71 PhD



Frank Yeomans '79 PhD, '81 MD

Victor Brombert (PhD '53) is the Henry Putnam University Professor of Romance and Comparative Literature Emeritus at Princeton University. For the special bi-centennial celebration, he was invited to give the keynote address on Victor Hugo at the University of Miami as well as lectures in Minneapolis, St. Louis, Chicago, Brown University, Princeton University. His memoir *Trains of Thought: Memories of a Stateless Youth* (Norton, 2002) is soon coming out as a paperback (Archer/Vintage) as well as in a French version in Paris.

Charles Hill (PhD '55) writes that “since retiring officially from Brooklyn College, CUNY, in 1992 (I taught an occasional course there until 1998), I have been involved in a number of volunteer activities. The most important of these now is my work with the Société des Professeurs Français et Francophones d'Amérique. The SPFFA offers fellowships to students at various levels and to beginning post-doctoral scholars. We also publish a scholarly journal (in French) and sponsor a colloque every other year. I am chair of our Fellowship Committee and participated in a recent colloque. I also plan to take part in the colloque scheduled for 2004, the centennial year of the SPFFA. And like Bob Hammond (PhD '52), I contributed to the volume published recently in France in memory of Oscar Haac, PhD 1948.”

William Roberts (PhD '55), after retirement from Northwestern, has tried to take advantage of his new “free” time, giving papers and publishing articles on Saint-Amant and Boisrobert, Maynard, La Fontaine, the Versailles gardens in 1693, Le Nôtre's Tuilleries and the Caroline Court of England. He has given numerous lectures on the history of Paris and on chateaux in Ile-de-France. Current research involves 17th-century prints and engravings. A Directeur of the Cahiers Maynard in France, since 1972 he has been the bibliographer of the North American 17th-Century Society, and publishes annual surveys of Research and Dissertations. For his years as program chairman of the local Alliance and for AATF activities, he was made Officier des Palmes Académiques. He misses the mighty Sterling Memorial, but since family connections are in the Boston area, he has parasitically had to take advantage of at least seven Harvard libraries, which have extended most gracious aid and hospitality, as has the B.N. Cabinet des Estampes ... He much regrets not being able to

attend the Yale French alumni conference in April, and comments, “The Biographical Notes [published for the conference] form a precious, impressive, and very welcome document, collecting vignettes on so many colleagues from the ‘Yale Days’ of over half a century ago, and on those personally encountered since. If one were to add accounts of the absentees, the faculty and the deceased, it would be a remarkable chronicle of a most remarkable Department.”

André Siamundele (PhD '99) is currently Assistant Professor of French and Francophone Studies at Colby College in Waterville, Maine. He reports that “after New Haven, I went down south where I spent one year in Baton Rouge (Louisiana State University) to discover another face of America. I realized the richness and the diversity of this vast country. My current scholarship develops a comparative approach to the cultural, political and literary discourse in central Africa. During the past two years, I have given papers related to the cultural and political discourses both before and after the independence year (1960). Last summer, I received a Humanities travel grant which enabled me to conduct research at the Centre National de la Cinématographie in Paris and at the Royal Museum for Central Africa in Brussels. I traced both the French and Belgian colonial memories through audio-visual materials. I focus my research on the colonial reflections in a postcolonial era through literary texts and films.”

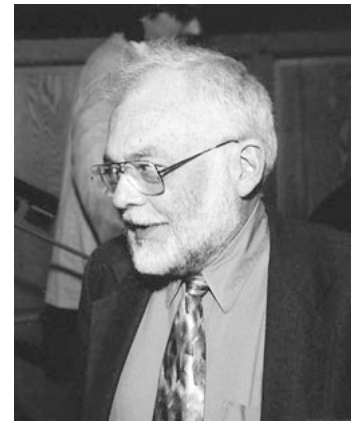
Claire Tolnay-Gaucheron (MA '47) of Geneva, Switzerland, writes that she had a long and interesting career as an international conference interpreter at the United Nations and its specialized agencies. This took her traveling all over the world. “After about 50 years of this very eventful but also stressful life, I decided to retire. Now I live on happy memories!”

John Westlie (PhD '81) taught at Colby College for four years after leaving Yale, then went to William Jewell College in Liberty, Missouri, where he has served in various roles ever since. He writes “My first years were spent teaching French, although I was immediately associated with the Oxbridge Honors Program, a four-year program of studies at William Jewell modeled on the Oxford and Cambridge model and in which students enroll in tutorials (rather than classes) in preparation for comprehensive examinations in their major field of study. In 1995 I became Senior Tutor (director) of the Oxbridge program (meaning that I was no longer teaching French) and also assumed direction of the overseas study programs. In large part as a result of my teaching in Oxbridge, my interests evolved away from 20th century fiction (my dissertation topic) towards 17th century apologetics and Pascal. In fall of 2002 I was on sabbatical working on a paper on Pascal when I was asked to serve as Interim Dean, and was later appointed Dean of the College and Vice-President for Academic Affairs on a permanent basis.”



Unity Dienes '99 PhD and her daughter Zoë

Scenes from the French Alumni Reunion April 4-6, 2003



Clockwise from top left: Mary and Jean Leblon '60 PhD, an appreciative audience during the opening panel session "The Birth of the Modern French Department: The Henri Peyre Years," Philip Lewis '69 PhD, Richard Watts '98 PhD, Susanna Lee '99 PhD and Frank Boxman '55 PhD.

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