



Greetings from the Chair —

As this Newsletter goes to press we have just learned the extraordinarily good news that **Maurice Samuels** will be joining the faculty of the Department of French in fall 2006. Maurie is well known to scholars of the nineteenth century for *The Spectacular Past: Popular History and the Novel in Nineteenth-Century France* (Cornell, 2004), a fascinating study of visual representations of history in the first decades of the nineteenth century, of the role of these representations in forging a new national identity in post-Revolutionary France, and especially of the influence of these representations on narrative fiction in the crucial shift from the Romantic to the Realist novel. Maurie is currently working on two new book projects – one on little-known Jewish novelists of the 1830s and 40s, the other on Jewish characters in canonical Realist novels. We are delighted that these projects will come to fruition at Yale, and that our students will benefit from Maurie's famously attentive and effective pedagogy and mentoring. The nineteenth century is once again alive and well at Yale!

Turning from the future to the past, a celebration without precedent was held in the Department on January 31, 2006, to honor **Jean Boorsch** on the occasion of his one-hundredth birthday. Jean Boorsch, whose graduate seminars on Montaigne, Descartes, and Rousseau many readers will remember from their student days at Yale, was a witness to World War I, a "Normalien de la promotion de 26" (as he loves to recall), a professor of French at Yale for forty years from 1934 to 1974, and a developer of the distinctive language-learning method that eventually evolved into *French in Action* and survives even today in our first and second-year language courses. Photographs of our Boorsch centenary may be seen on our website at <http://www.yale.edu/french/BoorschBash.htm>.

Another bitter-sweet celebration was held on April 20 to mark the retirement (on May 31) of **Shirley Gaddy**, our beloved department Registrar who for ten and a half years maintained impeccable order, calm, and good cheer in our graduate and undergraduate programs. Students and faculty were joined by Shirley's family and friends to surprise Shirley (who was indeed truly surprised for the first time in her long career in the department) with champagne toasts and chocolate cake. In her last week on the job Shirley trained her successor, Ms. **Brenda Crocker**, formerly the undergraduate registrar in the Department of American Studies, to whom we all wish a warm welcome to the department.

We had the pleasure of a semester-long visit from an old friend, former student, and former colleague, **Martine Reid** (PhD 1984, Assistant Professor 1984-1993). Martine was "delegated" to Yale by her home institution (l'Université Versailles-Saint-Quentin-en-Yvelines) to teach two courses here in the fall: a graduate seminar on "Gendered Representations in the Nineteenth-Century French Novel" and an undergraduate course on "French Fiction Before and After the Revolution." Shortly before she returned home to France Martine treated us to a lecture on gender in the novels of Sartre, thus commemorating the Sartre centennial in the waning days of 2005.

Our colleagues **Farid Laroussi** and **Julia Prest** were away on leave all year – Farid on a Senior Faculty Fellowship to work on French-North African literary relations, Julia on a Morse Fellowship to work on her new book on literary quarrels and theatrical representation in seventeenth-century France. Assistant Professors **Donia Mounsef** and **Jean-Jacques Poucel** were promoted to the

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Joyeux Centenaire, Jean Boorsch!



Le 31 janvier 2006, le département de français fêta (avec quelques jours de retard seulement) le centième anniversaire de Jean Boorsch. Jean Boorsch naquit le 25 janvier 1906 – soit sept ans avant la parution des *Alcools* de

Guillaume Apollinaire et de *Du côté de chez Swann* de Marcel Proust, sept ans avant la création du *Sacre du printemps* d'Igor Stravinski, et huit ans avant la mobilisation des poilus dans la Grande Guerre. Il obtint son baccalauréat à Paris en 1923, fut admis à l'École Normale Supérieure en 1926 et agrégé en 1929 (à l'âge de 23 ans). L'année même de son agrégation (et du krach!) il partit pour les États Unis où il devait faire toute sa carrière, d'abord à Middlebury College (1929-1934), ensuite à Yale University (1934-1974). Combien de nos lecteurs sont passés sous la férule bénigne de Jean Boorsch pendant les quarante années qu'il enseigna à Yale? Combien encore, depuis le tiers de siècle qu'il est professeur émérite, n'ont connu Jean Boorsch que par la légende qu'il laissa après lui? Trente-deux ans après sa retraite, soixante-douze ans après son premier cours à Yale, cent ans après sa naissance, les uns et les autres lui souhaitent bonne continuation de retraite, excellente santé et joyeux centenaire!



rank of Associate Professor and will consequently enjoy a year of leave in 2006-2007. Donia, having recently published her monograph on Koltès, *Chair et révolte dans le théâtre de Bernard-Marie Koltès* (L'Harmattan, 2005), will spend the year completing a new book on "staged bodies" in modern French theater, with chapters on Sartre, Barthes and Brecht, and Cixous, among others. Jean-Jacques, whose monograph on Jacques Roubaud will soon be published by the University of North Carolina Press, will move beyond the Oulipo to begin work on contemporary French poets of a completely different stripe.

Cultural events sponsored by the department included poetry readings by Michel Deguy, Jean-Marie Gleize, and Emmanuel Hocquard; autobiographical reflections by novelists Emmanuel Dongala and Vassilis Alexakis; lectures by Patrick Wald Lasowski (Paris VIII), François Rigolot (Princeton), David Heller-Roazen (Princeton), Richard Watts (Yale PhD '98, Tulane), Maurice Samuels (Penn), Elisabeth Ladenson (Columbia), and Suzanne Toczyski (Yale PhD '94, Sonoma State U.). The annual "Naomi Schor Memorial Lecture" was given this year by Peggy Phelan, Professor of Drama at Stanford University, who spoke on "Political Details, or The Distraction of History in the Age of Performance." Our French film series included "La grande illusion," "The Ister," and "The Battle of Algiers." The Film Studies Program, meanwhile, brought to campus the French cinéaste Arnaud Desplechin and sponsored a colloquium on "Conceptions of Film and Theater in France" focusing on the film criticism of André Bazin.

A very successful new "French and Francophone Studies Colloquium" was initiated this year by second-year graduate student Susannah Carson with the help of Catherine Labio, in order to "bring together francophiles from all disciplines to chat about all things French and Francophone." These "Chocolate Lectures," as they came to be known, consisted of informal bi-weekly presentations by students and faculty at Yale, preceded and followed by tea and chocolate delicacies.

In addition to this full schedule of lectures and talks, the department sponsored two fully staged and costumed French plays, performed entirely in French by student actors (undergraduates, graduates, and Normaliens): Michel Vinaver's *Les travaux et les jours*, directed by fourth-year graduate student and former professional director Jeffrey Leichman, and Bernard-Marie Koltès' *Dans la solitude des champs de coton*, directed by Donia Mounsef.

On the subject of theater, it is a great pleasure to announce the creation of a new fund, the "Molière et Co. Fund in Memory of June Beckelman Guicharnaud," endowed by **Jacques Guicharnaud** for the express purpose of "financing activities relating to the arts of the theater from the Middle Ages to the present, and films, from France and French speaking countries, provinces and communities." Thanks to this fund and the enduring legacy of our late colleague, we fully expect the tradition of French theater in the Department of French to continue into the indefinite future.

As always, your generous contributions to the Graduate School Alumni Fund provided invaluable and much appreciated assistance in attracting the most promising new students to the PhD program, in supporting students' active participation in scholarly conferences, and in paving their way to academic careers with travel grants to the MLA. Your contributions also allowed us to purchase a data projector, for use by our students in screening classic French films in the department. On behalf of all our students, thank you, very much, for your faithful and generous support. And many thanks as always to Jean Leblon (PhD '60) for his long and energetic service as the department's alumni representative.

By the time you receive this Newsletter the Department will have an excellent new Chair, our distinguished colleague **Tom Kavanagh**. The entire department is delighted that Tom has accepted to lead us upward and onward into the future, and I am personally especially happy to be leaving the chairmanship in such capable hands. Because this message to friends and alumni will be my last, I wish to end with a word of special thanks to all of you for sending us your news and offering us your continued support, to my colleagues for their indulgence over the last several years (with their help the Department has resembled Paris: *fluctuat nec mergitur*), to **Shirley Gaddy** for her ten-and-a-half-year career as the best Registrar our department has ever had, and to our incomparable Administrative Assistant, **Agnès Bolton**, for her perfect, unflinching devotion to the Department and its mission over the last six and a half years.

— Ned Duval



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Your comments, suggestions and news are most welcome!

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Ora Avni and Tom Kavanagh at the Boorsch festivities

I would like to begin this report with two expressions of special thanks. The first is to Shirley Gaddy who, after more than a decade of devoted service as the departmental Registrar, will be retiring at the end of this academic year. For all of us, graduate students and faculty, Shirley is someone who will be much missed, but for whom we wish

every happiness as she embarks on the adventures of retirement. My other special thanks go to Professor Howard Bloch who filled in for me as Acting DGS while I was on leave during this past fall semester. Howard did an excellent job not only of counseling the graduate students, but of bringing to a happy and effective close, with the help of the Graduate Committee, an extensive revision of our Graduate Program Rules and Regulations. Howard was so effective as DGS that he will be assuming that position on a regular basis.

As always, the core of our graduate program this year was the array of seminars offered. During the fall semester, with the presence here of Visiting Professor Martine Reid, they were: “Gendered Representations in the Nineteenth-Century Novel” (Reid); “Old French” (Bloch); “L’École de Lyon et la Pléiade” (Duval); “Theatrical Postmodernisms” (Mounsef); “Stylistic and Rhetoric” (Avni); “African-Caribbean Connections in French” (Miller); and “Readings in Critical Theory” (Labio). During the Spring semester they were: “The Bayeux Tapestry and the Anglo-Norman World” (Bloch); “Colonizer and Colonized in Africa” (Miller); “Roman et société au dix-huitième siècle” (Kavanagh); “The German Occupation in Film and Fiction” (Avni); and “L’Extrême Contemporain: Late Twentieth-Century Poetics” (Poucel). Our students, reflecting the interdisciplinary focus of contemporary graduate studies, also took a wide variety of courses offered in Comparative Literature, English, German, Italian, Film Studies, and Religious Studies.

The Graduate Association of French Students (GAFS) was co-chaired this past year by Matthew Landry, Anne Linton, and Claire McMurray. The co-chairs were especially effective in helping to coordinate activities during the visits by graduate candidates during the spring semester and arranging their stays as guests with our current graduate students. Special thanks are due to all the graduate students who, during the busy months of February, March, and April, so graciously welcomed the students we were recruiting. This last spring semester also saw the inauguration of “The Chocolate Lectures.” Animated by second-year graduate student Susannah Carson, they provided regular Monday-afternoon delights in the form of short talks on things French and French-related. Several graduate students in French – Scott Hiley, Shira Weidenbaum, Jeffrey Leichman, Roxanna Curto – were among the speakers in this new series. Graduate students also presented conference papers at other venues – Shira Weidenbaum spoke on Catherine des Roches at the University of Wisconsin

and Alexandra Gueydan spoke on nation building and censorship in Algeria at the University of Pennsylvania and at Boston College. At Boston College, Claire McMurray and Larysa Smirnova gave papers on, respectively, “Thérèse Philosophe: Elite Initiations and Problems of Readership in an 18th Century Erotic Novel” and “Roland Barthes: un exil dans l’écriture.” Jeffrey Leichman presented “Acting Lessons at the Comédie Française: Nivelles de la Chaussure and the Theatricalization of Bourgeois Morality” at Loyola Marymount University. Scott Hiley spoke on work, leisure, and temporality in Chrétien de Troyes’ *Yvain* at Arizona State University and Agnieszka Tworek presented “Behind Endgame’s Cell Gate: Becket and Prison” at Florida State University.

One of the highpoints of this past year was the superbly staged theatrical production, with a student cast, of Michel Vinaver’s *Les Travaux et les jours* overseen and directed by fourth-year graduate student Jeffrey Leichman. The play ran for three days in February in The Little Theater (formerly known to many of us as the Lincoln Theater).

Our exchange program with the École Normale Supérieure continues with much benefit for both institutions. During the 2005-2006 academic year four students from French – Michael Call, John Lytle, Laure Marcellesi, and Brian Reilly – spent the year at the ENS. During the coming academic year of 2006-2007, the French Department will be represented at the ENS by Roxanna Curto, Jeffrey Leichman, and Shira Weidenbaum of French as well as by Sara McDougall of History. We in turn welcomed here Karine Abiven, Marie Frétygny, Anne-Violaine Houcke, and Baptiste Villenave.

Three graduate students passed their Oral Qualifying Exams this last year: Tara Golba, Irina Iakounina, and Rachael Sterner. Four other students, Roxanna Curto, Alexandra Gueydan, Jeffrey Leichman, and Shira Weidenbaum, had their dissertation prospectus approved and were advanced to candidacy.

Brian Reilly was awarded a prestigious Leylan Fellowship by the Graduate School for the academic year 2006-2007. Michael Call, Roxanna Curto, Alexandra Gueydan, Scott Hiley, and Laure Marcellesi all were awarded Enders Fellowships for the summer of 2006.

Three PhD dissertations were completed this year: Ronan Chalmin wrote on “Corruption and the Chemistry of Enlightenment” with Thomas Kavanagh, Alexandre Limoges wrote on “L’Immonde Décadent” with Ora Avni, and Ryan Poynter wrote on “Eroticism in Twentieth-Century Francophone Caribbean Literature” with Christopher Miller. The three dissertations shared the Marguerite A. Peyre Prize.

Turning from completions to beginnings, five new students will be joining the graduate program next year. They are Jonathan Cayer, who comes to Yale with a BA from Concordia University in Montreal, Awendela Grantham who did her undergraduate work at Yale in French and who will be joining the Joint PhD Program in French and African American Studies, Madison Moore who did his BA at the University of Michigan; Maryn Stockman who did her undergraduate work at Mount Allison University in New Brunswick, Canada, and Chapman Wing who did his BA at the University of New Hampshire and his MA at the University of Delaware.

— Thomas Kavanagh

Faculty News —

Marie-Dominique Boyce chaired French 118, the new course for “false beginners” which she created in Fall 2005 with **Anne Ambrogelly** and **Soumia Koundi** to accommodate the new Yale College language requirement; she also designed a complete course packet for the course.

Marie-Hélène Girard is currently editing Théophile Gautier’s *Salons* and other art criticism. Her edition of two volumes of *Les Beaux-Arts en Europe*, containing reviews of the artists shown at the Exposition universelle (1855), is scheduled to appear soon. She also co-edited *Gautier et l’Allemagne*, the proceedings of a conference held at Siegen Universität in 2004, and collaborated on the catalogue of a recent exhibition in Château de Pau (France) about the romantic painter Eugène Devéria.

Thomas Kavanagh spent his fall research leave getting started on a study of pleasure in eighteenth-century France. In March he lectured on “Annette et Lubin: From Aristocratic Benevolence to Public *Bienfaisance*” at the annual conference of the American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies in Montreal. In August, his chapter titled “Painting for the Senses: Boucher and Epicurean Stoicism” will appear in *Rethinking Boucher*, edited by Melissa Hyde and Mark Ledbury for the Getty Museum Press.

Ruth Koizim and **Soumia Koundi** organized and chaired a new course sequence in Intermediate Advanced French (French 130/131) designed to accommodate the new language requirement at Yale. Ruth is currently working on a project that records native speakers of French from all parts of the Francophone world for a database accessible to teachers and students (“Voix Francophones”), and received a grant from the Consortium for Language Learning to help develop an interactive electronic information and support environment for language teachers at all levels of instruction (“TEACH”). She also conducted interviews with Françoise Schneider for the Prix Montaigne.

Catherine Labio completed her second term as assistant director of the Whitney Humanities Center. She wrote an essay on the visual and literary representations of the speculative bubbles that took place in Europe in the late 1710’s for a book-length project on literature and economics, and embarked on a new project on multi-panel narrative art. She also participated in an international audit of French studies at the University of Neuchâtel, Switzerland.

Farid Laroussi spent the year on a Senior Faculty Fellowship writing his new book on Orientalism and contemporary French literature. A modified version of one chapter will appear in a forthcoming issue of *The International Journal of Francophone Studies*. Last November Farid was invited by French Minister of Interior, Nicolas Sarkozy, to participate in a panel on culture and social inequalities in France (following the suburban riots).

Chris Miller finished work on his book *The French Atlantic Triangle: Literature and Culture of the Slave Trade*, which is now under review. He gave a keynote address, “The French Slave Trade and Modern Memory,” at the 20th and 21st Century French and Francophone Studies Colloquium at Miami in March. He will be a *directeur d’études associé* at the EHESS next spring during his leave.

After teaching a course in Paris, during the summer, on the image of that city in French and American literature, **Lauren Pinzka** chaired and revamped French 160, served as writing tutor for the

department, and gave two lectures, one on how to help our students write better in French and the other on the eternal appeal of Paris to Americans as seen through literature. Her article on Condillac came out in the *Dictionary of Literary Biography*, Vol. 313.

Donia Mounsef completed articles on Cixous, Mnouchkine, and Antoine, presented papers on “Antoine and the Theory of Milieu” at the International Federation for Theatre Research (Maryland), and on “What is Theatre?” at a symposium on Bazin at Yale. She organized a “Concours de poésie et de théâtre” for Yale undergraduates in the Department of French and directed the Koltès play *Dans la solitude des champs de coton*.

Julia Prest spent the year on leave as a Morse Fellow, preparing her first book for publication and beginning work on her second. She lectured on castrati at Yale and Penn and led a Yale Alumni tour of the Dordogne, where she gave lectures on Poulenc, responses to the discovery of the caves at Lascaux, Louis XIV, and Molière.

Françoise Schneider received an Instructional Innovation Grant from the CLS to design a supplement for French 150 consisting of a collection of French television clips, accompanied by glossaries, cultural commentaries and comprehension questions. The students appreciated this exposure to authentic French and this opportunity to gain a better comprehension of contemporary French issues.

Alyson Waters’ entry on “French Contemporary Comedy” appeared in volume I of *Comedy: A Geographic and Historical Guide* (Greenwood Press, 2005) and her translation of Vassilis Alexakis’ *Foreign Words* was published in April 2006 by Autumn Hill Books. In January she was a translator in residence at the Villa Gillet in Lyon. She was appointed to the Selection Committee for the Best French 21st Century Writing, sponsored by the French Cultural Services and the Pen American Center, for 2006-2007.

IN MEMORIAM: FRIEND

Eléonore M. Zimmermann ’36 PhD sends the news of the death of Konrad Bieber (’53 PhD, Comparative Literature), with the following remembrance: “**Konrad Bieber**, qui a longtemps enseigné le français et la littérature comparée à Connecticut College puis, après 1968, à SUNY Stony Brook, est décédé le 8 mars 2006. Né à Berlin en 1906, il a fui le nazisme avec sa famille et commencé ses études en France où il a obtenu une licence de lettres et servi dans l’armée. Venu aux Etats-Unis après la guerre, il a fait la connaissance de Henri Peyre qui a reconnu ses grandes qualités et l’a retenu à Yale où il a enseigné et obtenu son PhD en 1953. Sa thèse, *L’Allemagne vue par les écrivains de la résistance française*, a paru chez Droz l’année suivante, avec une préface de Camus. En 1979 il a écrit un livre sur Simone de Beauvoir. Il a surtout écrit sur la littérature du 20ème siècle, et a toujours continué à s’intéresser aux rapports France-Allemagne, à tous les niveaux. Il a été décoré Chevalier des Palmes Académiques. Il est resté en contact avec beaucoup des membres du département et des anciens de Yale, qui l’estimaient tous. Il était très ami de Jacques Guicharnaud, estimé de Peyre. Le volume de lettres de Peyre contient beaucoup de lettres qui lui sont adressées.”



Ruth Koizim celebrates with Jean Boorsch.

Yale French Studies Update

As always, the array of upcoming volumes of YFS is diverse and exciting, and I hope you will enjoy them as they appear. The most recent published volume (110), *Surrealism and Its Others*, edited by Katharine Conley (Dartmouth College) and Pierre Taminiaux (Georgetown University) is available in your bookstores now, or from Yale University Press (www.yale.edu/yup). In December 2006, YFS leaves the 20th century to return to the Middle Ages and the Renaissance, offering up a delightful, abundantly illustrated volume on *Meaning and Its Objects*, edited by Margaret J. Burland, David LaGuardia, and Andrea Tarnowski.

And here is what you can look for in the near future:

Volume 111, edited by Dan Edelstein (Stanford University) and Bettina Lerner (City College of New York), will be entitled *Mythomanies*. The editors explain: “we use *mythomanie* to refer on the one hand to the willful distortion or partial selection of historical evidence that we believe is inherent to myth-making. On the other hand, we wish to single out the veritable *mania* for, or powerful attraction to, myths as ideological building blocks in the modern and post-modern age.”

Josette Féral (University of Quebec at Montreal) and Donia Mounsef (Yale University) are preparing a long-awaited volume on *Contemporary French and Francophone Writing for the Stage* (112). They write “as the title suggests, the proposed volume will present a fresh critical perspective on new directions in dramatic writing with a particular focus on new forms of textuality and critical tools that take into account the text in its linguistic, aesthetic and cultural dimension, as well as its performative potential as it dialogues with the stage.”

In 1958, *Yale French Studies* published a volume called *French Education: Why Jeannot Can Read*. “Using the 1958 YFS volume as a historical and conceptual starting point, this ‘Fiftieth Anniversary’ issue will attempt to exemplify the present state of critical reflection on the role of literature in the school after so many years of investigation from so many distinct philosophical positions,” write Ralph Albanese, Jr. (University of Memphis) and M. Martin Guiney (Kenyon College) about their volume (113) on *French Education: 50 Years Later*.

As you can see from the words of our special editors, the field of French and Francophone studies reflected in our pages continues to provide a vast and fertile terrain for exploration. Come explore with us.

Amicalement,
Alyson Waters, Managing Editor

News from Alumni —

Lydia Belatèche '93 PhD writes, “During 2005, I was promoted to Senior Lecturer of French at the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities. This year, I begin serving as second vice-president of the Minnesota Chapter of the American Association of Teachers of French (AATF), a position which leads to the presidency after a year. Also in 2005, I celebrated my 15th wedding anniversary with John M. Graham ('88 PhD French). Actually, it was our 20th year together, since we met at Yale during the first department meeting for graduate students way back in 1985! Our son, Peter Belatèche Graham, starts kindergarten this fall. He is learning French at home.”

Jeffrey Boyd '99 MA has recently accepted the position of Lead Organizer/Staff Director for the Graduate Employees and Students Organization (GESO) at Yale University.

Victor Brombert '53 PhD, whose memoir *Trains of Thought* has come out in Anchor Paperback, has now written a French version under the title *Les Trains du souvenir*, published by Editions de Fallois. He is one of the participants in a WWII German documentary, “The Ritchie Boys,” telling the story of European refugees from Hitler's Europe trained in Military Intelligence at Camp Ritchie (Maryland), and who took part in the Normandy landings, the liberation of Paris, and the Battle of the Bulge.

Matilda Bruckner '74 PhD sends news about the NEH Fellowship she received to complete her book on Perceval and the verse continuations, currently entitled *Chrétien Continued: Contradiction, Recycling and Romance*. She says, “Since it's for the calendar year 2006, I'm halfway through and thoroughly enjoying the opportunity to concentrate on writing, though I was also delighted to participate as one of the co-curators in an art exhibit held last spring at Boston College (in conjunction with the annual meeting of the Medieval Academy): ‘SecularSacred.’ I also published an essay in the catalogue.”

William Calin '61 PhD is Graduate Research Professor at the University of Florida. His eleventh book, *The Twentieth-Century Humanist Critics: From Spitzer to Frye*, will be published by the University of Toronto Press. He is currently working on *The French Tradition and the Literature of Medieval and Renaissance Scotland* and will spend winter 2007 at the University of Florida Paris Research Center.

William R. Carlson '73 PhD writes, “I retired from the U.S. Foreign Service in August of 2004. Lonni [**Lonni J. Briggs** '72 MPhil] and I are living on Cape Cod, where I am currently organist at a small local church and she has branched out from painting into working in stained glass.”

Patrick Coleman '76 PhD is Professor of French and Francophone Studies at UCLA. He recently completed a four-year term as editor in chief of the journal *Québec Studies*. His latest book publication is a co-edited volume, *Culture and Authority in the Baroque* (Toronto, 2005). He continues to work in the areas of Quebec literature and French eighteenth-century studies, and is currently writing a book on emotion and sociability in the Enlightenment. His daughter Judy has just graduated from Yale Law School.

Marina Davies '05 PhD will be Faculty Fellow at Colby College (Waterville, Maine) next year.

Erica M. Eisinger '72 PhD, teaches at Wayne State University Law School. Last spring, she was a visiting faculty member at the Faculté

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der Rechtsgeleerdheid in Maastricht, the Netherlands where she taught a course on Civil Rights Litigation in the United States. (She earned a J.D. at the University of Wisconsin in 1982.)

Charles Fineman '72 MPhil writes "As of 1 January 2006, my job title changed to reflect the assumption of new (and even wider) responsibilities for selection within the Harvard College Library. That new title is: Librarian for France, Italy, and Scandinavia. In addition, my free-lance career as a translator from Danish, French, Norwegian, and Swedish continues to flourish."

Julia Frey '77 PhD continues to work as an independent scholar, writing and curating Toulouse-Lautrec exhibitions. In 2004, her husband, novelist Ronald Sukenick, died after a 15-year illness. This March, 2006, she married Dutch geophysicist Guust Nolet, a professor at Princeton.

Perry Gethner '77 PhD writes, "I was recently named to the Norris Professorship (one of the rare named professorships in the humanities at Oklahoma State University). I am beginning a third term as department head, but have somehow managed to publish critical editions of plays by Rotrou, Mairêt and a number of women playwrights. I am part of a team preparing a 5-volume anthology of French women playwrights from the 16th through 18th centuries, to be published by the Presses de l'Université de Saint-Etienne."

Ross Guberman '94 MA has been busy running his company, Legal Writing Pro, which provides writing training for lawyers in major law firms in the United States and around the world. In August, he will spend a month in Europe with his wife and two children, ages 4 and 6.

Victoria Guerin '85 PhD says, "I am still working for the United Nations in New York. From January through March 2005, I was on loan to the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) in Addis Ababa, where I supervised the English translators and visited several cities in Ethiopia, the Masai Mara and Nairobi in Kenya, and the island of Zanzibar in Tanzania. In July 2005, I moved from the post of English translator and précis-writer to that of editor for the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (one of the Security Council committees)."

Linda Jenkins '91 PhD writes, "I have been working as director of institutional development at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

since 2002, and am about to take a year away from the workforce to care for my new daughter, Carolina Stafford Jones, born in late February. I am also returning to my original moniker, **Linda Jones**."

Barbara Knauff '94 PhD says, "I received tenure from St. Mary's College of Maryland in 2000, but the outcome of my post-tenure sabbatical year was a career change – I decided to pursue a job that was opening up in academic computing at Dartmouth College, and now work as a senior instructional technologist in curricular computing, doing a lot of web and instructional design. I live in Hartland, VT, with my partner Tara and three dogs – the latest addition to our family is a black lab from francophone Louisiana who was a Katrina rescue. His obedience is still a bit lacking in any language, though. We love Vermont's natural beauty, and are grateful for our state's progressive legislation, which allowed us to have a civil union last summer."

Ann Kostant '93 MPhil writes that she is currently Editorial Director, Mathematics, at Springer. "Springer is a global STM publisher of books and journals, and is perhaps #1 in the world in the number of available titles in mathematics. Birkhauser Boston is an imprint of Springer, and in this capacity I continue to be the Executive Editor of Mathematics. I operate out of the Cambridge, Massachusetts, office and travel throughout the world."

Kathryn Lachman '98 MA writes, "I have been in Paris this year as a Georges Lurcy Fellow. I just got married in a simple but beautiful civil ceremony at the Mairie du 3e arrondissement in Paris - Bettina Lerner ('04 PhD) was one of my witnesses, as was writer Maryse Condé who brought her granddaughter. My husband, Jesse Ferris, is a fellow Yalie who is also now completing his PhD at Princeton (in Near Eastern Studies)."

Vera Lee '49 MA says "my last book, *The Black and White of American Popular Music: From Slavery to World War II* – preface by Ellis Marsalis – is slated for publication by Schenkman Books in late 2006. At this very advanced age I am also doing Argentine tango demonstrations with partner."

Alexandre Limoges '06 PhD will be teaching French part-time, beginning in September, at John Abbott College, an English-speaking institution in Montreal.

He will also be working toward a graduate diploma in literary translation at Concordia University in Montreal.

James Magruder '84 MA writes to report the passing of fellow alumnus David Civali ('89 MPhil) after a long and courageous struggle with AIDS. David held various teaching and administrative positions at the Potomac School in McLean, Virginia, and volunteered with the Washington Free Clinic's AIDS program and the Martha's Table Literacy Program. (See *In Memoriam: Alumni*, below.)

Ann Martin '78 PhD reports that she has taken a new job teaching history and social studies to middle schoolers at the Académie Lafayette, a French immersion school in Kansas City with a staff hailing from France, Cameroon, Quebec, Senegal and Belgium.

Thomas Martin '03 MPhil writes that he is currently living in Harlem (New York City) with his wife, Paula Estrada de Martin (Yale '04 PhD in cell biology). He is a lecturer at Columbia University in the Department of French and Romance Philology, where he teaches the Columbia equivalent of French 115, Beginning and Intermediate French.

Ruth Mesavage '79 PhD has been publishing assiduously on Francophone literature – five articles in the past three

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IN MEMORIAM: ALUMNI

David Civali '84 MA, '88 MPhil, died November 9, 2005, at the age of 48 after a 22 year battle with HIV/AIDS. After leaving Yale, he taught at the Hotchkiss School and the Potomac School; at the latter he was named both Chair of Foreign Languages and, later, Academic Dean of the Upper School. He was also active in community and volunteer programs.

John Phillip Couch '54 PhD died March 12, 2006 at age 77. After receiving his PhD in French Literature, he went on to serve in the U.S. Army and to teach at Wake Forest University and the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, where he spent 30 years. He was an avid art collector and opera buff, and author of *The Opera Lover's Guide to Europe*.

Alumni news *continued from page 6*

years, with three more forthcoming. She will soon be moving to Kiev to continue her Russian studies on a Petters International Grant from Rollins College.

Vicki E. Mistacco '72 PhD has just published the second volume of her two-volume anthology of French women writers, *Les Femmes et la tradition littéraire: Anthologie du Moyen Age à nos jours*, at Yale University Press. The anthology covers 40 writers, with an in-depth essay on each and generous illustrations.

Jane Moss '76 PhD continues to write about French-Canadian theater. She recently guest-edited a special issue of *Canadian Literature* (187) devoted to Francophone Canadian writing outside of Quebec. Last year, she was elected an honorary member of the Société québécoise des études théâtrales and has been elected vice president of the Association internationale des études québécoises. Through her Quebec Studies work, she has the pleasure of seeing fellow alumni Patrick Coleman (UCLA) and Karen McPherson (U of Oregon).

Buford Norman '71 PhD writes, "I have retired from the University of South Carolina and am living part of the time in Columbia, part in Paris (all of 2006), where I would love to see friends and colleagues. I am spending some of my time at the 'Centre de Musique Baroque de Versailles', working on a book on Racine and music."

Neal Oxenhandler '55 PhD remembers, in response to our query about French theater productions at Yale in the 1950s, that he was an instructor in 1954-1957 and Bart Giamatti was one of his students. He adds that he retired from Dartmouth a few years ago as the Edwards Tuck Professor of French. In 1997 he published a book: *Looking for Heroes in Postwar France: Albert Camus, Max Jacob, Simone Weil*. Most recently he has been working on Rimbaud and would love to hear from any alumni or graduate students interested in the poet. E-mail nealoxen@aol.com.

Henry Pillsbury '58 BA, '60 MA writes, "I've been asked to perform *Krapp's Last Tape/La Dernière bande* – both versions every night (I think it is a first; correct me if I'm wrong) – at the Athénée Théâtre Louis-Jouvet for the Beckett Centenary here in Paris, September 28 to October 28. I did the English version back when I was the age of the young Krapp: now I am exactly the age of the old Krapp, 69. Nice to have this



Chuck Porter and Chris Miller

lineup when Beckett 'is' 100." Travelers to Paris are encouraged to attend!

Charles A. Porter '62 PhD reports that his wife of 49 years, Betty, passed away as a result of a stroke in January 2006, not long after their 49th wedding anniversary. He also writes, "In the past year, as one of the executors of Jacques Guicharnaud's will, I had the great good fortune to discover, in a dusty box in the attic of his house, various papers including play and story manuscripts, beginnings of a diary and, most significantly, what looks to me like the manuscript draft of volume II of *Molière, une aventure théâtrale*. These miscellaneous papers of Guicharnaud's have been purchased by the Beinecke Library and are available to scholars: it is my hope that someone will soon take a careful look at them."

Kezia Pride '90 MA is now a full-time "in-house" editor for Gefen Publishing House in Jerusalem. She works mainly from her home office (in Ramat Beit Shemesh, Israel). Her fifth son, Yosef Chaim, was born in February. He joins brothers Yitzchak, Aryeh, Reuven, and Yehuda. In the past couple of years she has published several short personal essays and a children's story in *Horizons Magazine*, *Hamodia Magazine* and the online magazine *Aish.com*.

Martine Reid '84 PhD was named a "chevalier des arts et des lettres" by the French ministry of culture for her participation in the celebration of the bicentennial of George Sand, which included organizing two exhibitions. Her most recent book, *Signer Sand. L'œuvre et le nom*, has been selected for translation and publication in Japan at the end of 2006.

Ronnie Scharfman '79 PhD writes as she is about to leave for a 5-week interdisciplinary NEH summer institute entitled "Venice, the Jews, and European Culture." For cinephiles, she adds, "for the second year Purchase College (i.e., yours truly and

our new Yale French and Cinema PhD, Anne Kern)) co-sponsored a 3-day French Film Festival with the Alliance Française of Greenwich. We showed 11 films, 3 American premieres, brought actors and directors from France, and 2,000 people came! Not too far from New Haven for folks to consider next year!"

Davide Steedman '66 PhD retired from the World Bank in 1999 and now works as a consultant in the field of public sector management.

Lucie G. Teegarden '60 MA writes "I am retiring June 30 after 23 years at Bowdoin College and will now be director of publications emerita. I will continue to be involved here next year in a consulting capacity and plan to continue freelance editing – and hope to enjoy some free time as well. My most recent freelance project was editing *Imprint of Place: Maine Printmaking 1800-2005* by David P. Becker, to be published this August by Down East Books and the Center for Maine Contemporary Art."

Dominic Thomas '96 PhD is chair of the Department of French and Francophone Studies and Professor of Comparative Literature at UCLA. His new book, *Black France: Colonialism, Immigration, and Transnationalism*, will be published in the African Expressive Cultures Series at Indiana University Press in fall 2006.

Jonathan Weiss '73 PhD writes, "A brief update: the English version of my biography of Irène Némirovsky (author of the best-selling *Suite française*) will appear under the title: *Irène Némirovsky: Her Life and Works*. It will be published by Stanford University Press in October, 2006. I am scheduled to retire from teaching at Colby College in 2008. Until that time, I will be directing Colby's program in Dijon every fall semester, and back in Waterville for the "spring" semester (an inaccurate term here in Central Maine!)"

Éléonore M. Zimmermann '56 PhD writes, "It is with great sadness that I heard of Konrad Bieber's death, on March 8, 2006. Among those who came to the memorial service at Foulkeways, in Pennsylvania, where he lived, was Sandy Petrey, also a Yale French PhD (1966). The last time we had seen Konrad Bieber was on the occasion of the publication of the letters of Henri Peyre, last fall, at CUNY in New York, presented by the editor, John W. Kneller. Many of Henri Peyre's letters to Konrad and to Tamara Bieber are included in the volume."



Françoise Schneider and "le professeur"

Pierre Capretz in Action

Pierre Capretz is known to teachers of French throughout the world as the creator of the best-selling language program *French in Action*, and to hundreds of thousands of PBS viewers in the United States as the magisterial "professeur" who appears regularly throughout the video portion of that method. Since his retirement in 2003 Pierre is no longer the flesh-and-blood Yale "professeur" who directs and teaches our intensive first-year French course, but he has been more active than ever developing new programs for the teaching and the independent learning of French. One of these is based on Truffaut's 1961 film *Jules et Jim*, which for decades has been an integral part the second-year French course developed at Yale by Pierre. After years of work on a much-expanded interactive version of these materials, Pierre recently completed a DVD-ROM in which Truffaut's unabridged film serves as the object and vehicle of a complete interactive program in French language and culture, for use by independent language learners and as a teaching supplement by teachers of French. The program was published last summer under the title "*Jules et Jim Interactif*" and is now commercially available from Thomson Heinle (<http://www.heinle.com>).

Still in development are three other interactive language programs, all more or less expanded from materials originally

developed for language courses at Yale: an interactive version of *French in Action* to be called "*French in Interaction*," a program emphasizing conversational spoken French to be called "Interactive Multimedia Practice in Speaking," and most ambitiously, an interactive program based on Camus's *L'Étranger* which will include the complete text of the novel, Camus's own reading of the text, and myriad links to cultural, historical, and literary hypertexts ("Algiers," "juge d'instruction," "Fernandel," etc., etc.).

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:

Friday, December 29, 2006

5:15 – 6:30 pm

Loew's Philadelphia Hotel

Regency Ballroom C1

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, regrettably scheduled at the same time:

Friday, December 29, 2006

5:15 – 6:30 pm

Philadelphia Marriott

Grand Ballroom Salon E

1201 Market Street, Philadelphia

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