Greetings from the Chair —

This has again been a difficult year economically for the department. Not only were we obliged to cut spending by 12.5%, but we were asked to prepare for an additional 7.5% budget cut for 2010-11, as well as a new cost apportioning system called “all-funds budgeting.” Simply put, this means that departments will have to absorb certain staff and faculty costs which previously were supported by the university’s general funds budget. Departmental resources which in the past were available for lectures, conferences, and special initiatives, as well as for the support of study and research in France and francophone countries, will have to be redeployed and the department will soon find itself facing an annual operating deficit.

Beyond our budget travails, there is much good news to report. This year’s junior search in the area of early-modern/seventeenth-century studies was successful, and we will be joined by assistant professor Christopher Semk (right). Chris completed his undergraduate work at the University of Pittsburgh in 2002 where he specialized in French and linguistics. At the University of Indiana, he did an MA and a PhD in French Literature. Last spring, he successfully defended his dissertation entitled “Performing Martyrdom: The Poetics of Suffering on the French Stage, 1600-1663.” Chris is an original and promising young scholar whose work focuses on how the representation of martyrs functions as an emblem of the complex social and religious tensions at the core of early seventeenth-century France. As a graduate student, he taught a variety of courses devoted to literature and culture as well as to language. We feel his diverse talents will become the basis of his productive involvement with a variety of programs in Yale College.

In recognition of the generous financial support James T. King ’56 MA of Hong Kong has provided to the department over many years, the graduate study room on the third floor will now be officially designated as the James T. King Graduate Reading Room.

Two faculty members published books this year. Maurie Samuels’s Inventing the Israelite: Jewish Fiction in Nineteenth-Century France appeared last fall from the Stanford University Press and my own Enlightened Pleasures: Eighteenth-Century France and the New Epicureanism was published this spring by the Yale University Press. With a supporting grant from the Florence Gould Foundation, Chris Miller’s The French Atlantic Triangle: Literature and Culture of the Slave Trade will soon appear in French translation from Editions Les Perséides.

While Maurie Samuels, our continuing Director of Graduate Studies, was on leave during the spring 2010 semester, Howard Bloch generously and effectively served as Acting Director of Graduate Studies. On the subject of leaves, this year will find many colleagues devoting full time to their research: Yue Zhuo’s Morse Fellowship will allow her to spend the entire year in Paris working on her Roland Barthes project. Chris Miller will also be on leave during the 2010 fall semester, while Ned Duval, and Alice Kaplan will be on leave during the spring 2011 semester.
This fall will bring with it two events of interest to many of our alumni: **Maurie Samuels** will be serving as host for the 36th Annual Nineteenth-Century French Studies Colloquium to be held from October 14 to 16, and from October 29 to 31 the Yale University Press is organizing a reunion in honor of Pierre Capretz on the twenty-fifth anniversary of Yale’s hallmark language course, *French In Action*.

This year saw the reappointment of Ruth Koizim, the long-serving and much-loved Senior Lector who directs our multisection second-year language program. The end of this academic year also saw the departure from our ranks of Farid Laroussi and Jean-Jacques Poucel. Farid has accepted a tenure-track position at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, Canada where he will teach in the area of Francophone Studies, and Jean-Jacques will be teaching as a visiting assistant professor at Southern Connecticut State University.

On the curricular side, this spring the graduate faculty of the French Department unanimously approved the creation of a Combined PhD Program in French and Film Studies. This program, relying on the resources of Yale’s French Department and its Program in Film Studies, will produce scholars of French cinema with rigorous training in both fields. This will be a true combined degree program, with each department being the student’s “major” field and thus with complementary sets of requirements. Students will be expected to develop considerable knowledge not only of French cinema, but also of French and Francophone literature unrelated to film as well as of cinema apart from French film. This new program will join the department’s other long-term and highly successful joint program with African American Studies. We hope also to develop in the near future a similar joint program with Renaissance Studies.

As always, this was a year rich in lectures and cultural events sponsored by the department. During the fall semester we had visits from Jacqueline Cerquiglini-Toulet of Université Paris IV; Stephen Nichols of Johns Hopkins University; Patrick Weil of the CNRS and Paris I-Sorbonne; our own Brian Reilly, a fellow at the Whitney Humanities Center; the Cameroonian filmmaker, François Woukooche; the author and editor Roger Grenier; and in December Whitney Humanities Center; the Cameroonian filmmaker, François Alice Kaplan

Jean-Jacques Poucel will make our major both more attractive and more accessible who, as DUS, has championed a number of changes which will make our major both more attractive and more accessible to a growing number of students. Under the direction of undergraduates Jonathan Berken and Mary Goodings Swartz, the French language journal at Yale, *L’Amuse-Bouche*, has extended its scope beyond Yale to French and francophone studies throughout the world. Now available online, the most recent issue is graced by contributions from Jean Starobinski and Elie Wiesel.

For the third successive year the Kenneth Cornell Memorial Fund has made it possible for the department to provide financial assistance for study and research projects carried out by undergraduate and graduate students in a French-speaking country. This year we were able to award a total of $65,000, with $37,000 funding undergraduates doing summer language and literature study in France, $13,000 funding advanced undergraduates working on senior theses, and $15,000 funding summer research projects by graduate students. This singularly rewarding contribution to French studies at Yale was only possible thanks to the devoted work done by the selection committees of Ruth Koizim and Lauren Pinzka for the language study component, of Ned Duval as DUS for the advanced undergraduates, and of Howard Bloch as Acting DGS for the graduate students.

I would like to express here my personal thanks to the many people whose devoted work and sense of mission were particularly important for the department this year. To Maurie Samuels as DGS; to Howard Bloch who served as Acting DGS in the spring; to Ned Duval for all he has done to give new guidance and direction to our undergraduate program; to the four students from the École Normale Supérieure who graced us with their excellent teaching — Louis Delpchéch, Anne-Sophie Angelo, Marianne Lucidi, and Guillaume Lamy (below, left to right); to Maren Baudet-Lackner and Annabel Kim for their able service as co-chairs of the Graduate Association of French Students; to Agnès Bolton and Brenda Crocker for their scrupulous and generous contributions to the smooth, efficient, and friendly functioning of the department.

Let me end this year’s report by expressing the department’s heartfelt thanks to all those loyal alumni and friends who have helped us financially during this singularly difficult period. Your gifts to the Alumni Fund over the past year have allowed us to invite the prospective graduate students we are recruiting for a campus visit, to fund travel by graduate students giving professional presentations, and to defray the costs to our finishing students of attending the annual MLA convention for job interviews. Given the department’s ever more stringent economic situation, your gifts will now find many more uses and be even more intensely appreciated. — Thomas Kavanagh
From the DGS —

Last year was another busy and productive one for the graduate program. We welcomed a bumper crop of new students: Caitlin DeWilde, Annie De Saussure, Andrew Gates, Dustin Hooten, Jennifer Pahlke, and Liz Hebbard. Their enthusiasm—as well as sheer numbers—really helped energize the third floor of 82-90 Wall Street. The GAFS co-chairs, Maren Baudet-Lackner and Annabel Kim, displayed superior organizational skills and wonderful good humor. The fact that they did their job so well made mine much easier.

Along with help from Mary-Anne Lewis, Kristin Graves, and Maryn Santos, Maren and Annabel helped coordinate what was surely one of the highlights of the year: the semi-annual graduate student conference, sponsored by the Alumni Fund. Enticingly titled “Besoin de désirer: Appetite Between Wants and Needs,” the conference drew speakers from Europe, Canada, as well as the United States. Our own Annabel Kim gave a fascinating presentation titled, “Sapphic Suzanne: The Desire for Language and the Language of Desire in Diderot’s La Religieuse.”

Mary-Anne Lewis also took the initiative to co-organize, with a graduate student in the Italian Department, the first in a series of panels dedicated to professionalization. Supported with funds from the Graduate School and very well attended, the first panel was devoted to “The Future of the Fields” and featured Professor Anibal Gonzalez-Perez (Spanish), Professor Giuseppe Mazzotta (Italian), and Professor Edwige Tamalet Talbayev (French) discussing the direction of new scholarship in the foreign languages.

I am happy to report that the department continued its exchange with the École Normale Supérieure in Paris. This year two of our students participated in the exchange: Sasha Santee and Erin Tremblay Ponnou-Delaffon. Thanks to the support of the Kenneth Cornell Fund, several other students made trips to France and francophone countries: Julia Elsky, Irina Iakounina, Annabel Kim, Mary Anne Lewis, Raisa Rexer, Aaron Schlosser, and Chapman Wing.

The department once again offered a wide range of graduate seminars on all periods of French literature. These included in the Fall: Old French (Bloch); Rousseau (Kavanagh); Realism and Naturalism (Samuels); Experiments in Twentieth-Century Fiction (Avni); Roland Barthes (Zhuo); and Novel, Film, and History in French Africa (Miller). In the Spring the department offered: The Age of the Cathedral (Bloch); Poésie Lyrique à la Renaissance (Duval); Fact and Fiction in the Archives (Kaplan); Writing Nation in Maghrébi Literature (Tamalet Talbayev); Creole Identities and Fictions (Miller); and L’Extrême Contemporain: Late Twentieth-Century Poetics (Poucel).

I wish to congratulate the two students who filed dissertations this year. Irina Iakounina’s dissertation was titled “The Dilemma of the Individual in the Spiritual Poetry of the French Renaissance: The Example of Marguerite de Navarre and Clément Marot,” and was advised by Edwin Duval. Rachael Sterner’s dissertation was titled “Saintes Jeanne de Chantal and Louise de Marillac Writing...continued on page 4
Faith and Independence Outside the Cloister,” and was advised by Julia Prest. Although there were fewer jobs advertised this year than there have been in recent memory, one of our recent graduates, Brian Reilly, who was on his second year as a Mellon Postdoc at Yale, landed a visiting assistant professor position at Johns Hopkins University.

I am very pleased to announce that two of our students won the prestigious Chateaubriand Fellowship for study in France next year: Maryn Santos and Raisa Rexer. The French government only awards eight Chateaubriand Fellowships in all fields of study, so the fact that two went to our department is quite a coup. In addition, Awendela Grantham was awarded the Mellon Mays University Fellows Travel and Research Grant sponsored by the Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation to conduct research in France. This past year, several other of our students also held prestigious fellowships. These included: Jessica DeVos (Leylan Fellowship); Maren Baudet-Lackner (Connor Scholarship Fund); Dustin Hooten and Kristin Graves (Summer Language Institute Fellowship); Maryn Santos (Albert G. Feuillerat Fellowship); Jonathan Cayer, Anne Linton, Chapman Wing and Sasha Santee (Harry Baltz & Joseph Seronde Fellowship) and Erin Tremblay Ponnou-Delaffon (Javitz Fellowship).

Thanks to the support of the Alumni Fund, several of our graduate students were able to travel to conferences. Anne Linton, Raisa Rexer, and Sasha Santee presented papers at the Nineteenth-Century French Studies Colloquium, held at Brigham Young University. Julia Elsky and Mary-Anne Lewis presented papers at the Carolina Conference on Romance Literatures. Mary-Anne Lewis also presented a paper at graduate conferences at the University of Minnesota and Brown University. Kristin Graves presented papers at the ACLA conference in New Orleans and at a graduate conference at UMass Amherst. Catherine Fox presented papers at a graduate conference at Boston College and at the Caribbean Studies Association Conference. Maren Baudet-Lackner presented a paper at a graduate conference at Cornell; Annabel Kim presented a paper at a graduate conference at the University of British Columbia.

This year, the graduate student lounge became the James T. King Reading Room in honor of the generous support of Mr. James King. The King Fund allowed us to lease two new computers for the room and the Jacques Ehrmann Fund enabled us to add several new Pléiade editions to the Graduate Library.

The department once again came together for an exciting two-day recruitment event, organized by Howard Bloch, and made possible with the support of the Henry Peyre Fund, that culminated in a festive dinner at Thali. This year we will be joined by three stellar new graduate students (below, left): Benjamin Hoffmann (License, Université de Bordeaux; MA Paris IV Sorbonne; Diplôme de l’Ecole Normale Supérieure, Lettres et Philosophie); Nathalie Batraville (B.A., McGill; MA, Queens University, Kingston, Canada); and Colin Foss (BA, Middlebury).

Finally, let me express my deepest thanks to Howard Bloch who filled in for me as DGS while I was on leave in the Spring. He took on this task in addition to directing the Humanities Program. We are extremely grateful for all his hard work. Howard and I both wish to thank Brenda Crocker and Agnès Bolton for providing expert administrative support. — Maurie Samuels

**Faculty News —**

R. Howard Bloch continued to direct Yale’s Humanities Program. He lectured this year at Columbia University, Rice University, Johns Hopkins, and the University of Tennessee. He published an article on the good uses of the Humanities in the NEH official magazine *Humanities*. Continuing his work on medieval architecture and on Viollet-le-Duc, he offered this year’s Franke Seminar at the Whitney Humanities Center on “The Age of Cathedrals.” R. Howard Bloch was inducted into the American Philosophical Society, America’s oldest scholarly organization, founded by Benjamin Franklin in 1745.

Diane Charney reviewed five books written in French for the fall edition of *The Journal of Art Crime*, published by ARCA, l’Association pour la Recherche sur des Crimes contre l’Art. They include four books on the subject of Rose Valland, one of France’s most decorated women, honored for her role in saving the country’s art from the Nazis. She also reviewed “Confessions d’un voleur d’art,” the autobiography of Stephane Breitweiser, considered one of history’s most successful art thieves.

Alice Kaplan was inducted into the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in the fall. She was named in the Spring to the Conseil d’Administration of the SPFFA (Société des Professeurs Français et Francophones d’Amérique.) In the Spring she delivered the Naomi Schor Memorial Lecture on “Susan Sontag’s Parisian Year: 1957–1958.” Her new courses this year included a graduate seminar, “The Archives: Fact and Fiction” and an undergraduate seminar on Proust and Céline, as well as a course in translation on Camus and a freshman seminar in Comparative Literature and the Humanities on “The Experience of Being Foreign.” She is currently developing an undergraduate course using film, music, and novels to explore issues of national identity (and non-identity). Her book project on American women in postwar Paris continues apace, with pieces appearing in *L’Histoire et Libération*.  

*continued on page 5*
Faculty News continued from page 4

Thomas M. Kavanagh’s Enlightened Pleasures: Eighteenth-Century France and the New Epicureanism was published by Yale University Press in March 2010.

Chris Miller will be on leave in the fall. He is working with the French translator of his recent book, The French Atlantic Triangle: Literature and Culture of the Slave Trade. Le Triangle atlantique français, supported by a grant from the Florence Gould Foundation, will be published by Editions les Perséides later this year. Chris will also be collaborating with his partner, Christopher Rivers of Mount Holyoke College, on an article about the coincidence in 1921-22 between, on the one hand, the defeat of light-heavyweight champion of the world Frenchman Georges Carpentier by the Senegalese Battling Siki, and on the other, the awarding of the Prix Goncourt to a writer of African descent, René Maran for Batouala.

Maurice Samuels’s new book, Inventing the Israelite: Jewish Fiction in Nineteenth-Century France, was published by Stanford University Press. During his semester off, he worked on his new project on French Philosemitism and planned the Nineteenth-Century French Studies Colloquium, which will be held at Yale in October, 2010.

Lauren Pinzka taught a new course in the Spring, “Myth and Memory in Modern France,” covering the period of 1780-1965. She has been invited to write a paper on teaching Indiana for the MLA teaching series. She will also be presenting a paper on the current status of psychoanalytic criticism in nineteenth-century French literature for the NCFS conference to be held at Yale in October. She gave two public lectures in the last year, one on Le Malade imaginaire and the other, “Dreams and Nightmares in La Légende de Saint Julien l’Hospitalier.” This Spring, she also enjoyed participating on the search committee for the new Branford College dean.

This year, Edwige Tamalet Talbayev got acquainted with Yale and its wonderful students. She taught four classes in French and directed a European Studies master’s thesis on marginal masculinities in Maghrebi literature. She published two pieces, a report on the transnational Mediterranean forthcoming in Perspectives on Europe and an article on Kundera’s use of Moravian folklore in The joke, forthcoming in Folklorica. She presented her work at the Modernist Studies conference in Canada, the Middle-Eastern studies WOCMES colloquium in Spain, and the ACLA convention, where she also coordinated a panel on Mediterranean Encounters. She was also invited to give a talk in Montréal at the Biennial Conference of the Council of European Studies at Columbia University. At Yale, she joined the Councils on Middle East Studies and African Studies at the MacMillan Center as well as the Yale-based faculty reading group “The Afterlife of Objects.” She is now a member of the editorial board of the Taiwan-based journal Culture and Dialogue.

Vin d’honneur for ORA AVNI’s retirement

December 2, 4 PM
82-90 Wall Street  New Haven, CT
ALL WELCOME!

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ALL WELCOME!

This year, Yue Zhuo started her Morse sabbatical leave in Paris. She is finishing a book chapter on Bataille’s Nietzsche (contracted with Continuum) and is working simultaneously on her manuscript, Figures de l’archaïque chez Georges Bataille: du sacrifice à l’animalité (Éditions du Sandre). In fall 2009 she completed her book project on late Barthes. Her co-translation of Walter Benjamin’s “The Flâneur” will appear with Peking University Press in 2011.
From the DUS —

One of the most remarkable developments of the year was the publication of two new issues of the student-run French literary magazine, L’Amuse-Bouche. The editorial committee, led by its dynamo rédacteur-en-chef, Jonathan Berken, outdid itself with the second of these, especially having solicited contributions not only from our own students but from scholars and intellectuals around the world, including Deborah Jenson and Jean Starobinski!

Four students of the class of 2010 graduated with a major in French: Jonathan Berken, with a senior essay on figures of the doctor in Balzac, Huart et Flaubert (directed by Marie-Hélène Girard); Mary Swartz, with an essay on the end of the Troisième République (directed by our colleague John Merriman in History); Deva Altamirano, with an essay on existentialist feminism in the writings of Sartre and Beauvoir (directed by Maryam Sanjabi), and Sarah Weaver, with a year-long essay for the intensive major on the Oedipus plays of Corneille and Cocteau (directed by Jean-Jacques Poucel). Congratulations to all four of our majors, and special congratulations to Jonathan and Mary for earning Distinction in the Major!

The Scott Prize “for the best essay in French” was awarded this year, at the upper level, to Eve Binder (‘11), for her essay on Suicide, a contemporary novel by Édouard Levé; and at the Gateway level to Allegra Krasznekewicz (‘13) for her essay on the modernity of Baudelaire; and Qi Ning Tian (‘12) for her essay on language and propaganda in Flaubert et Maupassant. The Montaigne Prize “for proficiency in speaking and writing French” was awarded to Eve Binder (‘11), Jonathan Berken (‘10), Samuel Reinhardt (‘10), and Sijia Cai (‘11).

These fine students notwithstanding, interest in literature seems to be on the wane in universities these days. All foreign literature departments have noticed this trend, as has the Department of English. While our own enrollments in French language have held steady and even increased in recent years, our upper-level literature courses have remained under-subscribed. The Department continues to fight the good fight, however, offering a large number of undergraduate courses in all periods and genres of literature from all over the French-speaking world, viewed from a broad spectrum of critical approaches and in a wide variety of cultural contexts. Beyond our usual array of “Gateway” courses, designed to lead from advanced language study to the study of literature and culture in the language, the Department offered fourteen advanced courses in French literature and culture: The French Renaissance (Duval), French Literary Movements, 1800-1930 (Zhuo), Authorship in France: Proust and Céline (Kaplan), French Autobiography after 1945 (Laroussi), Twentieth-Century French Theater (Poucel), Twenty-First-Century French Novels (Poucel), Introduction to French Existential Literature (Sanjabi), Introduction to Francophone Literature Africa and the Caribbean (Miller), Introduction to Maghreb Literature and Culture (Tamalet Talbayev), France and the Islamic Orient (Tamalet Talbayev), Jewish Identity and French Culture (Samuels), Art and Literature in Modern France (Girard), Women’s Self-Narratives in French Literature (Sanjabi), and Letters in French Literature (Girard). In addition to these courses given in French, seven more were offered in English: 1066 and the Anglo-Norman World (Bloch), Age of Cathedrals (Bloch), The Modern French Novel in Translation (Avni), Camus and the Postwar Era (Kaplan), Modernism and the Avant-Garde (Poucel), Creole Cultures of the Caribbean (Miller), and Science and Culture in France (Reilly).

In an attempt to reorient students toward courses like these, and to make sure our majors cannot fulfill all the requirements for the major abroad and in other departments, we made some small modifications to the major this year, which were approved by the Faculty of Arts and Sciences of Yale College and will be eased into effect over the next two years. In an attempt to draw more non-majors to the Department we joined forces with other foreign literature programs to propose a pilot program allowing Yale students to minor. The proposal was voted down by the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, but we will undoubtedly try again.

In the meantime, the Kenneth Cornell Memorial Fund again allowed the Department to support the study of French at Yale. We awarded fourteen grants for summer study of the French language, and five grants for undergraduate research in French and Francophone Studies. The latter included projects on Robert Desnos, the “Bal des Quat’z Arts,” American-French literature relations, and laïcité and religious freedom. — Ned Duval

Nineteenth-Century French Studies Colloquium
THEORIES and METHOD
October 14-16, 2010

www.yale.edu/french/NCFS/WWW/index.html

Joseph Acquisto ’03 PhD is editing a book of essays on philosophical approaches to nineteenth-century poetry, whose working title is Thinking Poetry, and finishing a book on the reinterpretation of the Robinson Crusoe story in nineteenth and twentieth-century French literature.

Sahar Amer ’94 PhD has received the 2009 Aldo and Jeanne Scaglione Prize for Comparative Literary Studies from the MLA for Crossing Borders: Love between Women in Medieval French and Arabic Literatures (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2008). Her article entitled “Medieval Arab Lesbians and Lesbian-Like Women” (Journal of the History of Homosexuality, May 2009) was named “best article of the month” by the Feminae Medieval Women and Gender Index. She has just published a special issue of SITES (June 2009) on Franco-Arab Dialogues, and completed an article on the politics of naming homosexuality in contemporary Arab societies (forthcoming from the International Journal of Middle Eastern Studies) which is the basis of a new book project. She is also continuing to work on her ongoing research on the veil debate in Europe. She is especially happy about the development of a new interdisciplinary MA program in Franco-Arab Cultures that she helped create in the department of Romance Languages at UNC and which will welcome its first incoming class in fall 2010. She writes, “Please do encourage your best undergraduates to apply!”

Michele McKay Aynesworth ’72 MA writes, “Thanks to an NEA grant, I’ve just finished translating French economist Charles Rist’s World War II diary In So Corrupt an Age: A Journal of the War and of the Occupation (1939-1945) and will spend the fall in Paris doing the necessary research to make a scholarly edition of the book. The Kittredge Educational Fund has provided a generous travel grant for this purpose.

Karín (Harman) Bohleke ’96 PhD continues to serve as the director of the Shippensburg (PA) Fashion Archives and Museum and as an assistant professor of French in the Modern Languages Department, where she taught this past semester. Her article “Nile Style: Nineteenth-Century Women Travelers in Egypt and the Dilemma of Dress, 1815-1875” will published in the forthcoming issue of Dress, the journal of the Costume Society of America. She also presented a paper, “Une dame européenne qui voyage en homme: Ida Saint-Elme and Dress across Borders, Cultures and Religion” at the third biennial conference sponsored by the Shippensburg University Modern Languages Department. An additional article, “Americanizing French Fashion Plates: Godey’s and Peterson’s Cultural and Socio-Economic Translation of Les Modes Parisiennes” will appear in the next issue of the journal American Periodicals. She also published Nineteenth-Century Costume Treasures of the Fashion Archives and Museum, 1800-1900.

Víctor Brombert ’48 BA, ’53 PhD, was named Chevalier de la Légion d’Honneur. The decoration was presented on February 6, 2009 by Pierre Vimont, the French Ambassador to the United States, at a ceremony held on the campus of Princeton University.

Edmund J. Campion ’76 PhD writes, “In December 2009, I retired from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville where I taught French for 33 years. Since then I have been working as a French linguist for an agency of the federal government.”

Roseline Crowley ’76 PhD writes, “after 18 years of college teaching, I’m still working with France, not in academia, but in business, as an agent for some French textile companies. Reading French literature for pleasure... Mother of four and grandmother of four.”


Deidre Dawson ’89 PhD is Professor of Language and Culture in the Residential College in the Humanities at Michigan State University. Her most recent publication is a critical edition of the Marquise de Condorcet’s treatise on sympathy, which was published in 1798 as a response to Adam Smith’s “Theory of Moral Sentiments.” It will be published by SVEC at the Voltaire Foundation in Oxford under the title ‘Les lettres sur la sympathie’ (1798) de Sophie de Grouchy: philosophie morale et réforme sociale, ed. Marc Andre Bernier et Deidre Dawson. Since 2003, Deidre has been leading a study abroad program to Senegal, and she had recently undertaken the study of Wolof.

Irene Finel-Honigman ’73 PhD, writes, “My book, A Cultural History of Finance Routledge, London, 2009 was published last fall. I continue teaching at School of International and Public Affairs, Columbia University in the International Finance and Economic Policy concentration, focusing on European banks. I am beginning to research a book on US-French economic relations. I would be delighted to hear from classmates and colleagues. My daughter Ana is completing her PhD at Oxford in Art History.”

Rhonda Garelick ’91 PhD writes, “I am now a professor of English and of Performing Arts at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, where I moved because of a dual-career offer: My husband, Jorge Daniel Venecianick, is director of the beautiful Sheldon Museum of Art in Lincoln. At UNL’s Hixson-Lied College of Fine and Performing Arts I founded and am directing a new program called the Interdisciplinary Arts Symposium or IAS, consisting of a performance series, public lecture series, and a graduate seminar. This coming year, it will also include a new, related book series from the University of Nebraska Press, for which I serve as editor. Last year, IAS visitors included choreographer David Dorfman and jazz...”
Andrew Goldstone has just received his Vogue: Coco Chanel and the Myths of Fashion, Yorker!"

ORLAN and the Patchwork Self

She was also awarded a Dean's Scholarship upon admission. Since she started early, she will finish the JD in December 2012.

Robert Gordon '68 MA writes, “Our son Andrew Goldstone has just received his PhD in English at Yale this May.”

Andrea Goulet '99 PhD is Associate Professor of French and Undergraduate Chair of Comparative Literature at the University of Pennsylvania. She is the author of Optiques: The Science of the Eye and the Birth of Modern French Fiction (Penn, 2006) and is currently writing a second book on geological and cartographic discourses in modern French crime fiction, from Emile Gaboriau to Fred Vargas. She lives in Swarthmore, Pennsylvania with her husband and two children, ages 10 and 7. In October 2011, she will co-host with Seth Whidden (Villanova) the Nineteenth-Century French Studies conference in Philadelphia.

Ross Guberman '94 MA writes, “Oxford University Press will be publishing my book Point Made: How to Write Like the Nation's Top Advocates. My legal-writing consulting practice continues to take me across the country and abroad.”

H. Gaston Hall '59 PhD writes, “It occurs to me to report three pleasant compliments received last year: an honorary degree of Doctor of Humane Letters from Millsaps College, ‘Hugh Gaston Hall: An Appreciation’ in The Housman Society Journal XXXV (2009), and republication of my Comedy in Context: Essays on Molière (Jackson: University Press of Mississippi, 1984) as a print-on-demand paperback. Amazingly, I have also been invited to co-lead a birding tour of Corsica in April 2011 for Peregrine Tours of Australia. Why don’t some of you come along?”

Sally Hess '91 MPhil writes, “I retired from Swarthmore College this year. I expect to resume my solo dance career and to continue writing. My last article, “Why Are you Here? Go Home!” appeared in the IYNAUS (Iyengar Yoga National Association for the US) Convention Magazine: Reflection, May 2010. I also appear as a model in Yoga for Arthritis (W.W. Norton, 2008), and Yoga for Multiple Sclerosis (Demos Press, 2007).”

Robert P. Holley '71 PhD writes, “I like what I do well enough to avoid retiring anytime soon from my position as a professor of Library and Information Science at Wayne State University. I enjoy the fact that as a scholar near the end of my career I can choose my projects. Right now, I’m working to get the best papers from my students published and serve as a frequent peer reviewer for four journals. I’ve also become a columnist for a library publication, Against the Grain, where I can be opinionated about scholarly communication, the university, and the future of libraries. Finally, I’ve reached the milestone of having over 100 entries in Library Literature, the indexing service continued on page 9
for librarianship. For fun, I have a huge vegetable garden, bicycle, and sell books on the Internet.”

Ed Knox ’66 PhD writes that he’s still retired and still spends about five months a year in France. He recently published a second article on how Americans look at France, and has one forthcoming on how Americans write about Italy.

Anne Ladd ’73 PhD writes, “I am happily retired in Canton, MA, just doing a little tutoring in French and Spanish.”

John D. Lyons ’72 PhD, Commonwealth Professor of French at the University of Virginia, was named Chevalier de la Légion d’Honneur in 2007. He gave one of the plenary lectures in July at the annual French Studies Society meeting in Swansea (UK). His French Literature: A Very Short Introduction (Oxford University Press) appeared last spring. He recently co-edited a collection of essays, Chance, Literature, and Culture in Early Modern France (Ashgate 2009), and is completing a book with the working title The Phantom of Chance.

James Magruder ’84 MA, ’92 DFA writes, “My debut novel, Sugarless, published by University of Wisconsin Press in 2009, was shortlisted for a Lambda Literary Foundation Award, the 2010 Cabell First Novelist Award, and the 2010 William Saroyan International Writing Prize. I’m also presently working on new Molière and Goldoni adaptations.”

Joseph Mai ‘04 PhD writes that his book Jean-Pierre and Luc Dardenne was published in the Contemporary Film Directors series by the University of Illinois in May 2010. He was also promoted to Associate Professor with tenure at Clemson University. He is now embarking on a project on the representations of animals in film, literature, and philosophy, and welcomes any and all advice.

Christie McDonald ’69 PhD had, in her words, a very newsy year: Two books are being published in 2010: Rousseau and Freedom, edited by Christie McDonald and Stanley Hoffmann (Cambridge University Press) and French Global: A New Approach to Literary History edited by Christie McDonald and Susan Suleiman (Columbia University Press); Christopher Miller and Maurie Samuels of the Yale French Department are among the contributors to this latter volume. Christie McDonald and her husband, Dr. Michael Rosengarten are becoming co-masters of Mather House at Harvard on July 1; Mather is a sister to Morse College at Yale.


Armire Mortimer ’74 PhD wrote, “I retired from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign on January 1 this year, and For Love or for Money: Balzac’s Rhetorical Realism has just been accepted for publication by the Ohio State University Press. I look forward to a brief return to campus for the annual Nineteenth Century French Studies Conference in October.”

Eliza Nichols ’98 PhD has been the Dean of the School of Fine and Performing Arts at Columbia College Chicago since 2007. Eliza’s prior positions include vice provost at The New School and assistant professor at the College of William and Mary. Her daughter, May Erouart (19), is a student at UW-Madison and her son, Alexandre Erouart (13), will be starting high school in the fall at Lincoln Park in Chicago.

Susan Isaacs Nisbett ’71 MPhil lives in Ann Arbor, Michigan, and now writes about classical music, dance and restaurants for annarbor.com, the successor online publication to the Ann Arbor News, for which she was an editor and writer for many years. Last fall, she was one of 25 recipients of a National Endowment for the Arts fellowship to attend the NEA Institute in Classical Music and Opera in New York.

Bill Panici ’83 PhD writes that he finished his dissertation several years after leaving Yale, but he adds, “the dissertation was published in 1990 by Garland Publishing in their series, Garland Studies in Comparative Literature under the title: Three French Short Verse Satirists: Marot, Magny, and Du Belly. I published several articles in the late 80s and early 90s in Romance Notes, the Bibliotheque d’Humanisme et Renaissance, and the Journal of Evolutionary Psychology, among others, dealing with the work of the above mentioned poets and satire; and also a long article in French on metaphorical language in Racine’s Phèdre, the result of an NEH Summer Seminar at Princeton in 1981 with Francois Rigolot. I left teaching in 1992. In the years since then, I pursued another career, real estate. I am also very active in my community. For years I sang with chamber choirs in DC, worked in historic preservation, and volunteered for...”

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the Casey Tree Foundation. Since 1997 I have raised over $30K to protect the 85 year old American elms that line the street I live on in northwest DC. I spend time in Florida where I have a home as well. I love to travel and most recently spent three weeks in Africa (Zimbabwe, Botswana, South Africa) where I did both riding and walking safaris, slept in tree lodges, and tents in a bush camp. An absolutely wonderful experience. My life today is quite far removed from academia. I have adjusted well and love the work and the people I deal with.

Amy Baram Reid ’96 PhD was named Director of the Gender Studies Program at New College of Florida, where she has been teaching, alongside fellow alum Jocelyn VanTuyl (’86 BA/MA, ’93 PhD), since 1995. Her translation of Queen Pokou: Concerto for a Sacrifice, a novel by Ivorian author Véronique Tadjo, was published by Ayebe Clarke in 2009, and her translation of The Invisible Republic, an essay by Patrice Nganang appeared in the Summer/Fall volume of the NYU journal Washington Square. Amy is currently the vice-president of the American Council of Québec Studies and is busy preparing, along with Jane Moss ’76 PhD, for the 17th biennial conference in Burlington this November.

Martine Reid ’84 PhD est Professeure de littérature française à l’université de Lille depuis plusieurs années désormais. Elle a créé et réalisé pour Gallimard, dans la collection Folio, une série intitulée “Femmes de lettres” : vingt titres sont désormais disponibles, des Mémoires de Marguerite de Valois à des extraits du Deuxième Sexe de Simone de Beauvoir. Elle a publié cette année chez Belin Des Femmes en littérature, un ouvrage de synthèse sur le sujet. Elle est présidente de la SIEFAR (société internationale d’études sur les femmes d’Ancien Régime) depuis 2009.

Sylvie Romanowski ’69 PhD writes, “In March 2010, the University of Chicago Press published Essay on the Geography of Plants by Alexander von Humboldt and Aimé Bonpland. It contains Humboldt’s essay which I translated from the French, and my analysis of a large plate that accompanies the volume, ‘Humboldt’s Pictorial Science,’ along with other materials relating to Humboldt written by Bonpland. This fall, I gave a paper on Maryse Condé’s 2007 play which I saw at the Avignon Festival, Comme deux frères, at a conference in Montreal on francophone theater in the Americas.”

Leonard Rosmarin ’67 PhD writes, “I was named Professor Emeritus at Brock University a year after retiring in 2003. I have been so active since retirement that I often wonder whether I really did officially retire. The main advantage, of course, is being able to structure one’s time as one wants. In the past seven year I have published three scholarly works: Liliane Atlan ou la quête de la forme divine (Toronto/Paris: Le GREF/L’Harmattan, 2004), The Red Seas/Les Mers Rouges, a translation of Liliane Atlan’s finest play, published by Le GREF in 2007 and produced at the Toronto Fringe Drama Festival, and Elie Wiesel, le refus du désespoir (Wolfville: Les Éditions du Grand Pré, 2010) as well as seven articles for literary journals both in Canada, U.S.A. and France. I have also published my first novel at the ripe old age of 70, titled Getting Enough (New York: Strategic Book Group, 2009). It was inspired by my over-the-top, larger-than-life Jewish family in Montréal. Needless to say, I have changed all the names and circumstances to protect the guilty! It tells the story of a mangled marital and sexual relationship that manages to heal itself against all odds. Various people have told me it is the Jewish equivalent of the film My Big Fat Greek Wedding. My wife and I are also cultivating “L’Art d’être grands-parents,” as Victor Hugo said. It is indeed the reward for all the agony endured as parents. I would love to hear from my fellow alumni.”

Maryn Santos ’10 MPhil writes, “Some of my news is that I’ve received a Chateaubriand Fellowship for the 2010-2011 school year (for research in Paris), and that my husband and I are expecting our first child in early August.”

Ronnie Scharfman ’79 PhD writes, “Having retired last June after 30 years of teaching French and Francophone literatures at Purchase College, I am deepening other abiding interests. Although a few articles on Francophone writers are in the pipeline (Schwarz-Bart — coming out soon in a volume of YFS, Césaire, Khatibi), I’ve turned my attention mostly to studying biblical Hebrew (hard!), writing poetry and contemporary midrash. I can’t say I miss the institutional aspects of teaching, although I was fond of my students. Truth be told, I was really, really ready to retire and recommend it to anybody who is similarly ready. There are enough lectures, conferences and films in the N.Y. area to keep my francophone loyalties stimulated. I still love to travel — we’re about to leave for 3 weeks in Italy, including Sicily. It’s wonderful to have time to read the great literature of places we’re visiting — Calvino, Sciascia and Vittorini now. And if my husband Joe ’64 BA ever retires, we’ll certainly continue our travels to more distant places. At least, until we (hopefully), become grandparents some day.”

Luz Nuncio Schick ’81 MPhil writes, “After twenty-five years living in Chicago as a freelance writer, editor, and translator in textbook publishing, I am now semi-retired and living with my husband Will Schick in Galesburg, Illinois. We have two children, Robert and Emily, who as newly-minted adults (22 and 21 years old, respectively) are making their way in Chicago. My current passion is historical research — my husband and I are working on a documentary for the Peoria PBS station on the Mexicans who came to Galesburg a century ago to work for the railroad and related industries. It is passionate,
tremendously gratifying work—we are gathering precious photographs and oral histories that we hope will give this piece of Mexican immigration history the attention it deserves. I have fond memories of my colleagues at Yale and wish them all well."

**Patricia Siegel** ‘69 PhD will be retiring from the chairmanship and from the College at Brockport in December 2010. She spent the last two weeks in June at the Visitation Monastery in Scy-Chazelles, France, just outside of Metz on the mountainside. She was working in their archives for information on education in the Monastery during the years 1840-1860, and for any first hand commentaries on the war of 1870. She writes, “It was almost as good as being in heaven!”


**Philip Stewart** ‘67 PhD retired from Duke University after a teaching career of 37 years. His book L’Invention du Sentiment was published by Studies on Voltaire and the Eighteenth Century earlier this year. He is at work on the correspondence of Montesquieu.


**Lucie Giegengack Teegarden** ‘60 MA writes, “I retired as director of publications at Bowdoin College in 2007. In my semi-retirement, I edit catalogues and newsletters for the Bowdoin College Museum of Art as well as books about art and landscape architecture and French and ESL texts. I am co-author, with Theresa Mattor, a landscape architect, of Designing the Maine Landscape, published jointly in May 2009 by Down East Books and the Maine Olmsted Alliance. The book discusses historic landscapes of many types, from parks and private estates to college campuses, cemeteries, and new towns for industry, and is beautifully illustrated with historic and contemporary images. Theresa and I had a busy summer and fall with numerous book talks throughout Maine and in Boston and Washington, D.C. I also had the privilege of copyediting Héritages Francophones by Jean-Claude Redonnet, Ronald and Susan St. Onge, and Julianna Nielsen. “Héritages” is published by Yale University Press. The book was granted the official patronage of the Académie française in 2007.”

**Robert S. Thomson** ‘66 PhD writes, “Godwin Books has published my Operatic Italian and it has been reviewed by The Times Colonist (Victoria), February ’09, Journal of Singing (August ’09), Opera America (Summer ’09), and Opera Today (January 2010). On another note I have in my possession ten pages of personal correspondence with the late Henri Peyre. I lived in Montreal while writing my thesis on Francois Mauriac and Mr. Peyre guided me through this dark labyrinth by correspondence. As one would expect, Peyre’s letters reveal his immense breadth of learning, his rapier judgment and his ironic, absurdist humor. They also reveal how generous he was with his time. As a thesis advisor he was a remarkable teacher. Regrettably, I did not hear of the colossal Henri Peyre: His Life in Letters (John Kneller and Mario Maurin) until it was a fait accompli and by then it was too late to get my letters included. This is a pity because His Life in Letters contains nothing quite like the letters which Peyre sent to me. Realizing that some readers would want to read them I am offering to send an e-mail copy of them to anyone interested.”

**Jon Weiss** ‘73 PhD, writes, “No great changes to report. I am still “semi-retired” from Colby’s French department, teaching every fall semester in Dijon, France, where I am in charge of Colby’s semester abroad program. I think this is the most rewarding experience an American professor of French can have. I have 29 students in my group for next fall, and I’m really looking forward to showing them the beauty and complexity of Burgundy and France.”

News from Yale French Studies —

The most recent issue of Yale French Studies is a double volume (116 & 117), edited by Michael A. Johnson and Lawrence R. Schehr, entitled *Turns to the Right?* The editors’ preface begins, “The four decades since the ‘events’ of May ’68 have seen some seismic shifts in history, politics, the arts, and dynamics of interpersonal relations.” With essays such as “The Americanization of France” (Michael Gueldry) and “Moroseness in Post-Cold-War France” (Bruno Chouat), *Turns to the Right?* offers a view of contemporary French society as seen through the eyes of sociologists, philosophers, historians, and literary scholars. The next issue, a double volume as well (118 & 119), to appear in Fall 2010, also treats twentieth- and twenty-first century concerns. Edited by Michael Rothenberg, Debarati Sanyal, and Max Silverman, *Noeuds de mémoire* “considers the emergence of a multidirectional conception of history and memory in modern French and Francophone cultural production” and is “concerned with postwar approaches to the past that bring disparate histories of violence into relation with one another and, in so doing, illuminate the dynamic and palimpsestic structure of collective memory” (from the “Editors’ Note”). Together these two double issues provide, in more than two dozen thought-provoking essays, a perspective that is both broad and deep on French and Francophone culture and society from World War II to today. — Alyson Waters

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, January 7, 2011
7:00 – 8:15 pm
406B Los Angeles Convention Center
1201 S. Figueroa Street, Los Angeles, CA

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:

Friday, January 7, 2011
7:00 – 8:15 pm
Plaza III
JW Marriott Los Angeles at L.A. Live
900 West Olympic Boulevard
Los Angeles, California