FRIT alumnus Rottet newest addition to faculty

Though the newest addition to FRIT’s tenure-track faculty in French linguistics may have received his PhD a mere decade ago, Professor Kevin Rottet possesses a wealth of knowledge on linguistics, Cajun French, Welsh, Breton, and French slang terminology.

Rottet received a master’s degree in romance linguistics from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, in 1990. He then came to IU and pursued a double PhD in general linguistics and French linguistics, which he earned in 1995.

His first teaching assignment was at the University of Wisconsin, White-water, in 1997, where he taught undergraduate French courses. The program at Wisconsin was more teaching-oriented and did not have a graduate program in French, and Rottet was glad to have the opportunity to return to Bloomington this past fall to teach graduate and linguistics courses in this department.

Since his arrival, he has taught upper-level undergraduate courses in French grammar, phonetics, and language structure. He particularly enjoys teaching F401, a course which typically introduces many linguistic concepts to students who have no prior experience in linguistics. In this course, students learn about the formation of slang terms in French, how the names for traditionally male occupations are “feminized” in French, and how new words are formed.

In addition to French linguistics, Rottet’s academic interests include studying “language contact issues,” which occur in environments where non-English languages, such as Welsh or Cajun French, are spoken by a smaller part of the population. In these situations, according to Rottet, the lesser-spoken language is often in danger of dying out. His interest in these languages has prompted his involvement in teaching an intensive Welsh course held by the Welsh Studies Institute of North America, as well as co-authoring the Dictionary of Louisiana French with Professor Albert Valdman and several other scholars.

Rottet attributes a great deal of his interest in both Louisiana French and Welsh to the influence of other members of the department during his PhD studies here. Rottet cites Valdman’s extensive study of Louisiana French as a primary influence in developing his own interest in endangered languages. In addition, Rottet was introduced to Welsh by another graduate student, Marta (Weingartner) Diaz, during his doctoral study at IU. Each summer from 1995 to 2001, Rottet enrolled in an intensive summer course in Welsh at the Welsh Studies Institute in North America. Starting in 2002, he has been teaching at the Welsh Studies Institute.

In addition to his study of French and other languages, Rottet enjoys the outdoors and traveling. By his own count, he has visited 40 U.S. states and a dozen European countries, as well as Canada, Mexico, and the Virgin Islands. With his wealth of knowledge and experience, the department is glad to have him back in Bloomington.

Valdman retires after four decades

After 40-plus years of service to the Department of French and Italian, Professor Albert Valdman begins his well-deserved retirement this summer.

Valdman’s lifelong dedication to scholarship has touched individuals at all levels of the department, from the freshmen who use his introductory-level French textbooks to the faculty members with whom he has co-authored important reference books on subjects such as Louisiana French. Further, his contributions to Indiana University over the last four-plus decades, in scholarship, service, and leadership, have made him a well-respected and admired individual at this university and beyond.

Valdman grew up in Paris during the decade preceding World War II. His family relocated to southern France in 1942. To hide from the German occupation force, he was sent to work as a shepherd in a nearby village. While (continued on page 4)
I n October 2003, Professor Peter Bon- danella lectured at the annual conven- tion of the Federico Fellini Foundation in Rimini, Italy. He also spoke on “Rome in the Contemporary Italian Cinema” at the University of Toronto in February 2004 and lectured on “Fellini’s Impact on Contemporary Cinema” at Florida Atlantic University in March. In May, Bondanella’s book Hollywood Italians: Dagos, Palookas, Romeos, Wise Guys, and Sopranos was published (Continuum International Publishers of New York); it is the first comprehensive history of Hollywood’s portrayals of Italian-Americans from the silent film era to the present. Also, Bondanella and Professor Andrea Ciccarelli edited The Cambridge Companion to the Italian Novel (Cambridge University Press), a series of essays on Italian fiction from its origins to the present.

In January, Ciccarelli became the editor of Italica, the journal of the American Association of Teachers of Italian. It is a challenging but highly rewarding task, and he is grateful to his colleagues for selecting him and encouraging him to accept this new undertaking. In May, he was a visiting professor in Milan, where he taught in the PhD programs at the State University and at the Catholic University. He has continued his research on literature and migra- tion, publishing in Esperienze letterarie and Interc证券投资i, and he has begun a new proj- ect on contemporary Italian literature. He served on a committee of the Ministry of Research of Italy to deliberate on applica- tions for grants and funds as well as on in- ternational projects. This was an honor and a very interesting experience, as it gave him an opportunity to learn the Italian system and to examine current research trends.

Professor Margaret Gray enjoyed opportunities to lecture on Colette at the School of Advanced Study, University of London, as well as on Colette and Fer- dinand Oyono (Cameroon) at Gregynog Hall, University of Wales. She also partici- pated in a round-table discussion of “New Perspectives on Proust” at the French Institute in London. Her work as mem- ber of the AP French Exam Development Committee took her to meetings in Santa Monica, Calif. (where she enjoyed seeing Kathleen Micham, PhD’99), Princeton, N.J., and Paris. Her essay “Proust in Postmodern Perspective” was published in the MLA volume Approaches to Teaching Proust’s Fiction and Criticism. She also pre- sented a conference paper on French writer Marie Darrieussecq at the University of Illinois and was co-leader of a workshop for AP French teachers in Washington, D.C.

Professor Rosemary Lloyd finished a study of the written still life, Shimmering in a Transfigured Light: Writing the Still Life (Cornell University Press, forthcoming in 2005). In addition, her book Baudelaire’s World was selected by Choice magazine as one of the outstanding academic books of 2003. She attended conferences in Leeds, England, for the Société Disc-Neuf and one in London devoted to the sketch. For the 19th-Century French Studies meeting, she organized a panel on how modern inven- tions were treated in literature and art: Lloyd spoke about the bicycle. Coinciden- tally, on the way to this meeting, her check- in at the Indianapolis airport was briefly impeded by two large containers holding Lance Armstrong’s bicycles! In November, she returned to London to speak about Baudelaire at a conference present- ing feminist readings of a series of French and German canonical male figures. More recently, she gave a paper at the second international Women in French conference, held at Scripps College.

In August 2003, Professor Emanuel Mickel and his colleague, Professor Jan Nelson (University of Alabama), completed the 10th volume of the Old French Crusade Cycle, a project begun in 1965. Also in August, he lectured at the Inter- national Société Rencesvals Congress in Granada, Spain. In February 2004, a book titled The Reception and Transmission of the Works of Marie de France, 1774–1974 was published by Chantal Maréchal, founder of the International Marie de France Society. Maréchal accords special honor to Mickel’s book on Marie de France as a seminal and fundamental work in the history of Marie de France scholarship. In March, Mickel lectured at Cambridge University on the Old French Crusade Cycle and at the Insti- tute of Historical Research in London on 12th-century Latin and vernacular history and romance.

Professor Emeritus Samuel Rosenberg was invited to speak at a fall-semester col- loquium at the University of Massachusetts on the 14th-century “Miracles de Nostre Dame par personages.” In May, the 39th Annual International Congress on Medieval Studies organized three sessions devoted to Old French literature, as well as a banquet, in Rosenberg’s honor. The sessions will soon be published as a Festschrift co-edited by FRIT alumna Karen Fresco, PhD’83. Other alumni participating in the festivi- ties or contributing essays to the book are Christopher Callahan, PhD’85, Robert Clark, MA’76, PhD’94, Susan Johnson, BA’69, Douglas Kibbee, MD’75, PhD’79, Christopher Kleinhenz, BA’64, MA’66, PhD’69, Norris Lacy, MA’63, PhD’67, and Charles Pooser, MA’88, PhD’97. Faculty participants included professors Jacques Merceron and Emanuel Mickel. Professor Rosenberg takes this opportunity to express his deepest gratitude to all these IU friends and to the others present on May 8 as well.

(continued on back page)

GASLA-7
(continued from page 1)

Aafke Hulk from the University of Amster- dam, and Professor Donna Lardiere from Georgetown University.

The first day of the conference featured a workshop on publishing, including professional presentations and discussion of research-related issues. Panelists at this publishing workshop included several editors of professional journals. French and Italian Professor Albert Valdman represent- ed the journal Studies in Second Language Acquisition.

The conference included 30 talks and 11 poster presentations on various topics in second language acquisition. Sessions ad- dressed empirical issues on the acquisition of anaphoric relations, argument structure, parametrized semantic and morphosyntax properties, as well as the questions of the initial state of L2 acquisition, the nature of grammars acquired by adults, and differ- ences and similarities between child simulta- neous and sequential bilingualism.

Faculty news

Professor Rosemary Lloyd, standing, partici- pated in the Women in French conference held at Scripps College in Claremont, Calif., in April. Fellow colleagues in attendance included FRIT alumnae, from left, Catherine Schmitz, MA’97, PhD’03 (Wofford College), Joyce Johnston, MA’97, PhD’01 (Stephen F. Austin University), and Mylene Catel, MA’90, PhD’96 (SUNY at Potsdam).
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n April 23, the Dogwood Room of the IMU blossomed with the annual Department of French and Italian awards ceremony. Graduates and undergraduates received a variety of awards from the department and the College of Arts and Sciences, and the newest initiates of academic honorary societies were introduced. As usual, the presenters injected humor and levity into the affair, and the post-ceremony reception provided a welcome respite from end-of-semester stress.

Student awards, scholarships

The French faculty honored eight of their outstanding students with various awards. Junior Laura Maul and Senior Amy Zerebnick received the Grace P. Young Undergraduate Award, while graduate student François Mulot received the Grace P. Young Graduate Award for excellence in French literary studies.

For excellence in French linguistics, graduate student Shannon Halicki received the Peter Cannings Prize. PhD candidate Robert Kilpatrick was awarded the William and Maryse Trapnell Fellowship for his dissertation research on pre-1789 French literature.

Junior LeMai Nguyen received the Albert and Agnes Kuersteiner Memorial Prize in recognition of excellence in spoken and written French, and senior Karen Turowski received the John K. Hyde Award in recognition of undergraduate achievement in French.

In remembrance of Professor Emeritus Charlotte Gerrard, who died in December 2003, the first annual Charlotte Gerrard Memorial Prize was awarded to junior Maria Partlow-Duffy for excellence in French studies.

The Italian faculty recognized graduate student Stefano Gulizia’s excellent achievement as a student of Italian with the Lander MacClintock Award. In addition, undergraduate excellence in Italian was recognized, as seniors Ariane Magrou and Matthew Burton received the Mario and Katrina Vangeli Award.

Professor Douglas Hofstadter (cognitive science) and Professor Emeritus Edoardo Lébano presented the Carol A. Hofstadter Memorial Prize to five students this year. This award, which honors the memory of Professor Hofstadter’s wife, Carol Brush Hofstadter, provides funding for students who will participate in the Bologna overseas study program next year. Professor Hofstadter presented copies of his book Le Ton Beau de Marot as well as award certificates to juniors Erika Brownlee and Mellinda Poor, and seniors Michael Edwards, Ariane Magrou, and Camille Navarro.

Three additional scholarships were awarded to undergraduates, courtesy of the College of Arts and Sciences. Senior Amanda Sarasin received the Stephen Cohen and Katrina Vanden Heuvel Scholarship, senior Ariane Magrou received the Z. G. and Ethel Starr Cleveenger Scholarship, and senior Camille Navarro won the Dorothea Lee William Karsell Scholarship.

Initiations

Professor H. Wayne Storey presented the new initiates to the Gamma Kappa Alpha Italian Honor Society: Matthew Burton, Amelia Deibert, and Camille Navarro. In addition, Professor Andrea Ciccarelli recognized French and Italian majors initiated into Phi Beta Kappa in 2003–04: Deena Fogle, Suzanne Lappas, Ariane Magrou, L. De Forest Nicholas May, Mary Pietruca, Raina Polivka, Elizabeth Sloan, and Amy Zerebnick.

Teaching awards

The department also honored associate instructors and faculty for outstanding teaching. Torunn Haaland, from the Italian program, and Caroline Fache and Rebecca Petrush, from the French program, received awards.

The faculty also recognized Professor Julia Bondanella for her excellence in teaching by awarding her the Trustees’ Teaching Award, presented by department chair Andrea Ciccarelli. Ciccarelli concluded the festivities by recognizing the many years of dedicated teaching, service, and research of Professor Albert Valdman, who was to retire in May (see related article on page 1).
Department remembers life of Professor Charlotte Gerrard

The Department of French and Italian mourned the loss of Professor Emerita Charlotte Frankel Gerrard, who died in Bloomington on Dec. 14, 2003. A member of the French faculty for 35 years, Professor Gerrard was remembered by colleagues and friends at a memorial service hosted by the department in the University Club of the Indiana Memorial Union on March 5.

Born March 20, 1928, in Stamford, Conn., to Samuel and Ida (Brazel) Frankel, Gerrard grew up in New York City. She earned BA and MA degrees in French literature from Ohio State University and a PhD from the University of Pittsburgh, where she held an Andrew Mellon Fellowship. Her dissertation dealt with heretical texts totaling 155 pages from which we have taken more than 100 minutes.

Her love of theater was celebrated by monologue presentations by current students Robert Hackett (Sartre’s The Flies) and Caroline Fache (Molière’s Tartuffe). Close friend and former IU reference librarian Patricia Riesenberg also spoke, as did Professor Margaret Gray, presenting a memorial gift from the department to Gerrard’s sister, Gilda Epstein.

In memory of Charlotte Gerrard, an academic prize has been created to honor outstanding students of French. The first award, to junior Maria Partlow-Duffy, was given at the annual departmental awards ceremony on April 23. The department welcomes contributions to the Charlotte Frankel Gerrard Prize for students of French. Please make your check payable to the IU Foundation, and write the name of the prize on the memo line. Mail to: Indiana University Foundation, PO Box 500, Bloomington, IN 47402.

Valdman (continued from page 1)

watching the sheep, he taught himself English using a textbook borrowed from his sister. Later, his family secured his safe passage from occupied France to Spain and eventually to the United States, where he attended high school in Philadelphia, graduating at the top of his class.

After graduation, Valdman attended the University of Pennsylvania, where he studied under the French linguist Pierre Delattre. During his time in graduate school at Cornell, Valdman’s dissertation was directed by creolist Robert A. Hall. Valdman’s interest in creole languages was inspired more, however, by his future wife, Hilde, than the influence of Hall. Hilde’s

Montherlant, and Thierry Maulnier. Her publications include works on Montherlant, Sartre, Ionesco, Boris Vian, Thierry Maulnier, and Georges Ribemont-Dessaignes.

Her dedication to teaching and to helping students learn inside and outside the classroom were hallmarks of her years at IU. She regularly organized play readings and declamation contests for students of French, and she formed lasting friendships with students that remained strong through her retirement in 2000.

Her memorial service included remembrances by former students Douglas Kibbee, MA’75, PhD’79, Thomas Broden, MA’76, PhD’86, and Amanda Baker, BA’99. Gerrard’s love of theater was recognized by his home country, which granted him the title “Commandeur dans l’Ordre des Palmes Académiques,” an honor first created by Napoleon Bonaparte in 1808 to recognize achievements in teaching, scholarship, and research.

Valdman also founded the journal Studies in Second Language Acquisition, and he has authored several books, particularly in the areas of pidgin and creole languages. He also served as senior editor of the Dictionary of Louisiana Creole, the first published dictionary of its kind. Currently, he is overseeing a project to create a dictionary of Cajun French.

“..."In the profession, we commit ourselves to these areas of activity: research, teaching, and service. There are few professors who excel in all three areas, and Professor Valdman was one of them,” said Professor Emanuel Mickel, who served as department chair for 11 years and worked with Valdman in developing the literature and linguistics programs.

Not only has Valdman been influential in the United States, but he has also been recognized by his home country, which granted him the title “Commandeur dans l’Ordre des Palmes Académiques,” an honor first created by Napoleon Bonaparte in 1808 to recognize achievements in teaching, scholarship, and research.

Valdman’s years of service to the department have enhanced the program in many areas, and his impact on the curriculum, faculty, and students will be felt for many years hence. According to Mickel, Valdman “always put the department first, even when it meant more time on his part.”

To a professional who has devoted so much of his life’s work to the department, we extend our sincerest thanks and best wishes.

Contributors: Kevin Rottet, Emanuel Mickel, Daniel Dinsen, Jonathan Musko

Now available from IU Creole Institute

The new CD-ROM A la découverte du français cadien brings together 35 transcribed texts totaling 155 pages from which we have taken more than 100 minutes of oral excerpts, some from interviews recorded on site, others from radio archives. Those who are interested in Louisiana French will be able not only to consult a representative list of terms from the language’s lexicon and to read texts illustrating how the language is used in everyday communicative interactions, but also to hear the speech of French-speaking Louisianians.

The whole collection covers the speech of 32 towns in 13 parishes of the French-speaking Triangle.

For more information, send e-mail to creole@indiana.edu.

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Before 1960

David R. Drake, BA’50, writes, “After 20 plus years of teaching French, German, and English in Marin County, Calif., I retired to live in Taos, N.M., where I was a summer school student while a full-time student at IU.”

Philip J. Paris, BA’56, retired on Dec. 31, 1999, as registrar at Union Theological Seminary in New York City.

1960s

Alex Sharma, MA’66, MA’72, MS’74, PhD’81, gave a workshop at the annual Thailand TESOL Conference in Bangkok on Jan. 23–25. He is an associate professor at Concordia University and lives in Montreal.

Judith A. Auer, MA’67, MM’71, taught voice and staged opera scenes for the Chongqing Opera in China. She continues to teach with the Opera Festival di Roma each July. The Boulder, Co., resident would like to hear from classmatess who can contact her at judith@aintothegap.com.

Michael E. O’Donnell, MA’68, is on faculty at the University of Virginia. He and his wife, Vachira, live in Coeburn, Va.

Rosalie Berger Levinson, BA’69, MA’71, a civil rights and constitutional law scholar, has been named the first Phyllis and Richard Duesenberg Professor of Law at Valparaiso University. She has argued cases before the 7th Court of Appeals, lectured frequently, and published widely. She has served as chair of the Civil Rights Section of the Association of American Law schools and as a board member of the Jewish Human Relations Council of Northwest Indiana. Levinson has been a law professor at Valparaiso since 1973.

1970s

Michele Reiling McCaffrey, BA’72, MLS’74, is completing her 12th year as a reference and instruction librarian at St. Michael’s College in Colchester, Vt., serving as department head. Off campus, she teaches adult education classes in Italian. She lives in Essex Junction, Vt., and can be reached at mnc@smcvt.edu.

Earl D. Kirk, MA’73, writes, “In the summer of 2003, I became the director of study abroad at the University of Evansville.” He can be reached at elkirk@evansville.edu.

Rosanne Soifer, BA, BSM’73, of New York City, co-owns a publishing company, Ennasor Music. She writes, “Our pops orchestra piece, The Chanukah Suite, has been performed by over 25 orchestras nationwide over the last few years.” The adjunct professor at Touro College in New York City teaches music business and life skills to aspiring recording and media producers. She can be reached at srjsd@aol.com.

R. Keith McMahon, BA’74, writes, “I am chair of East Asian languages and cultures at the University of Kansas and have recently published my third book, The Fall of the God of Money: Opium Smoking in 19th-Century China.”

Betty E. Combee, BA’76, writes, “Twenty-seven years after graduating from IU, I am finally teaching French at the Cambridge School in Tampa, Fla. I have stayed up to date with my French language skills thanks in part to my visits to and from my dear friends in Strasbourg.” She and her husband, James, live in Tampa.

Mike Savich, BA’76, writes that he is still speaking French and eating Italian and has concluded that cooking the first is harder and that eating the second is easier. He lives in Alexandria, Va., and can be reached at savichmike2001@yahoo.com.

Jon E. Fugler, BA’78, is the general manager of three radio stations in California, while his wife, Nancy (Stoltz) Fugler, BA’79, works for Kird Radio in Yucaipa, Calif. They live in San Luis Obispo, Calif., and can be reached at sfugler@gosignup.com.

1980s

Geoffrey R. Brigham, BA’81, left Paris after two years to continue in Switzerland as eBay’s legal director for Europe. He was awarded the French honor of Chevalier de L’Ordre Nationale de Merit. He can be reached at gbrigham@ebay.com.

Mary E. Cardenas, MA’86, a licensed CPA since 1999, received an MS in taxation from the University of Texas at San Antonio. She works in the corporate tax department in Southwestern Bell’s corporate headquarters in San Antonio and can be reached at mkedas@hotmail.com.

1990s

Elizabeth A. Brandes, BA’93, is assistant vice president of marketing services for Southwest Student Services. She writes, “I manage the national marketing efforts for the company out of our metro Phoenix office.” The Chandler, Ariz., resident can be reached at ebrandes@sssc.com.

In January 2003, Nicole Wilson Denner, BA’93, MA’96, completed her PhD in French and comparative literature at Northwestern University, with a concentration on 18th-century French literature. She is teaching French and English courses at Stetson University in central Florida.

Laura L. Dennis-Bay, MA’95, PhD’00, is an assistant professor of French at Cumberland College. She and her husband, Mark T. Bay, MLS’99, adopted two daughters, Sapna Jessica and Sampa Lily, from India in March 2003. They live in Williamsburg, Ky., and can be reached at ldennis@cumberlandcollege.edu.

Erika Josephson, BA’96, is a producer for CBS News’ The Early Show and is living in Manhattan. She can be reached at erikajnyrc@rcn.com.

Michael D. Rutz, BSPA’97, BA’98, is on the campaign staff for Republican gubernatorial candidate Mitch Daniels. The Indianapolis resident can be reached at rutzmichael@hotmail.com.

Jake McCorkle, EX’99, BA’01, is pursuing an MBA. He and his wife, Meghan, live in Urbana, Ill., and can be reached at jake@champaigntelephone.com.

Katherine J. Stotler, BA’99, JD’02, joined the Indianapolis law firm of Baker & Daniels as an associate with the labor and employment team. She can be reached at kstotler@alumni.indiana.edu.

2000s

Jennifer L. Reiser, MA’00, writes, “I am living in Orlando, Fla., and for the past two years have worked for Turnstile Publishing Co. as marketing coordinator and ad copy manager. This year I traveled to Toronto for the international Golf to Travel Show, where I expanded our advertiser base of bilingual (French/English) companies across Canada.” She can be reached at jreiser@golfweek.com.

Alyssa R. Marcus, BA’01, writes, “I have moved to Manhattan and have been teaching elementary and middle school foreign language on Long Island. I teach grades 4–7 French, Spanish, Italian, and Latin. I have recently completed my master’s at New York University in Foreign Language Education K–12 in French and Spanish.” She can be reached at alyssamar@aol.com.

Brianne H. Ungar, BA’01, is currently in an MSW program at the University of Texas at Austin.

Michael R. Marlo, BA’02, was awarded (continued on back page)
Faculty news
(continued from page 2)

Professor Massimo Scalabrini published a book on Teofilo Folengo and the macaronic tradition, L’incarnazione del macaronico: Percorsi nel comico folenghiano (Bologna: Il Mulino, 2003). An essay titled “Il pgiore uomo forse che mai nascesse: La novella di ser Ciappelletto e la poetica del comico” is forthcoming in Italian Quarterly. He is working on two book projects, one on the poetics of comedy in the Italian Renaissance and the other (with Professor Davide Stimilli of the University of Colorado at Boulder) on the pastoral tradition in literature and the visual arts.

Near the end of his 2002–03 year in Bologna, Professor Wayne Storey married Roberta Capelli. Capelli is a specialist in Romance philology completing a post-doc at the University of Padova. Returning to the United States, Storey served his first year as director of the Medieval Studies Institute. In October in Bergamo, he presented a study, co-authored with Capelli, of scribal uses of ordinatio in medieval Italian manuscripts. He published Dante for the New Millennium (Fordham University Press), with Teodolinda Barolini, and the first volume of the facsimile and interpretative editions of Petrarch’s Rerum vulgari fragmenta: Vaticano Latino 3195 (Antenore). He also published four articles: two in the journal Italica and one each in the journals Dante for the New Millennium and Da Guido Guinizzelli a Dante: Nuove prospettive sulla lirica del Ducenzo. Storey was appointed editor of TEXT, the journal of the Society for Textual Scholarship. At the end of the academic year, he was promoted to full professor.

Alumni news
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a three-year National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship. The Ann Arbor, Mich., resident is planning a trip to Kenya in 2004–05 to continue his work on phonological, morphological, and syntactic aspects of the Lusaamia language.

Kylie A. Peppler, BA’02, writes, “I am currently enrolled in UCLA’s PhD program (Graduate School of Education, Division of Urban Schooling). This past New Year’s Eve (2003), I married Eric Lindsay, BM’02, in Fort Wayne, Ind.” She can be reached at kpeplle@ucla.edu.

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