The 2009-2010 academic year was an exciting and productive time for the Department of French and Italian. Despite the university’s budget reductions, we were able to retain all our faculty positions and recruit 15 new graduate students, almost all of whom received first-year fellowship awards in addition to associate instructor positions. We had a bountiful year of Phi Beta Kappa candidates (more than 10) from our graduating senior class, and our enrollments in French courses increased slightly, while Italian held steady overall.

We were pleased with the successful promotion of Laurent Dekydtspotter to the rank of full professor in French linguistics and Marco Arnaudo to the rank of associate professor of Italian with tenure. Professor Arnaudo’s scholarly reputation is already spreading in the U.S. and abroad, and he was invited to teach as visiting professor at the Università di Pavia, Italy, in April and May.

Five PhD students have finished their degrees during the past year, and several have excellent academic placements. Among these is Christopher Semk, MA’05, PhD’10, who specializes in 17th century French literature and will start a tenure-track position as assistant professor at Yale University in the fall.

We also continue to benefit from having visiting professors join us for a short period and share their expertise with students and colleagues. In the spring Professor Catriona Seth, a world-renowned scholar of seventeenth-century French literature from the Université de Nancy, joined our faculty and was a strong presence throughout the semester with her participation in departmental events and in our lecture series. In Spring 2011, the department will welcome Emmanuel Bouju from the Université de Rennes, a specialist in comparative and contemporary literature.

We look forward to Alison Calhoun, recipient of the prestigious ACLS award, joining us as a faculty member the next two years. Calhoun selected our department from among many important universities where she was invited to join the faculty. She is a scholar of 16th-century studies who will greatly enrich our teaching cadre and the intellectual discourse in our departmental lecture series.

Our department continues to benefit from the generous contributions of alumni and friends through the IU Foundation, often sent in honor of a former professor. These funds are used for student activities and awards to recognize excellent students whose work is celebrated by multiple faculty members. We appreciate this assistance.
Poring over a language atlas of Picard, Associate Professor Julie Auger points out the subtle differences in pronunciation throughout the region in northern France and Belgium where this language, considered by some a variant of French, is spoken. Although Belgium has recognized Picard as a regional language, the French government, with its policy of linguistic unity, has not. The days of blatant discrimination against Picard—speakers in France are in the past, but Picard does not have the institutional support to be carried forward by new generations.

Regardless of official recognition, Picard has been a fascinating subject of study for Professor Auger for over 15 years. After completing her dissertation on subject doubling in Quebec French at the University of Pennsylvania in 1994, she found that this phenomenon (e.g. Jacques il va à l’école) was widespread in Picard.

Her interest in Picard, a language evolved from the Old French langues d’oil alongside standard French, eventually led to field work in Vimeu, where she recorded dozens of hours of spoken Picard, documenting a dying language. She has spent the last 10 years transcribing, analyzing, and writing about the language.

In addition to Picard, Auger has continued her studies of her native Quebec French, which, although closer to standard French than Picard, also has unique characteristics. Not only are there words in Quebec French that don’t exist in standard French, but the integration of English into the Quebec language is different than how English has crept into standard French (despite the best efforts of the Académie Française).

The Québécois have a complex relationship to their language. Some take pride in its differences from standard French, while others are somewhat ashamed of the use of slang and anglicisms. According to Auger, the Québécois suffer from “linguistic insecurity.”

The study of a people’s relationship to their language is the essence of sociolinguistics, and with both Quebec French and Picard, Auger has rich fuel for her scholarship. She has also guided graduate students in conducting linguistic research, which often evolves from work a student has done in one of her classes.

For example, Ryan Hendrickson, MA’10, is working with Auger on a study of the way the subjunctive mood is marked in Picard, work that started as a classroom assignment in F579 “Introduction to French Morphology.” MA student Kelly Biers has volunteered to help Auger with her research to learn the skills he will need when he must develop his own doctoral project. He is also working with the Picard audio recordings, looking for when a vowel is inserted between words and why.

Through a National Science Foundation grant, Auger has been able to hire a few graduate students as Research Assistants, through which close, on-going collaboration produced scholarly publications. For example, Anne-José Villeneuve, MA’07, worked with Auger on sociolinguistic studies of both Picard and Quebec French, which helped her develop her own PhD dissertation project analyzing the French spoken in Vimeu.

“Doing research with Professor Auger has taught me as much about linguistics as it has about great work ethics,” says Villeneuve. “She has always welcomed my input to the research and made me feel appreciated as a collaborator.”

Her work on Quebec French has made ongoing contact with the Canadian province a professional as well as personal priority for Auger, who is a native of Quebec City. She returns to Quebec about twice a year, usually with her husband Yves Brun, an IUB professor of biology who is a displaced Acadien from New Brunswick.

Auger’s enthusiasm for Quebec’s culture has led her to make several presentations on the topic for the IUB French Club, and Quebec is prominently featured in Auger’s popular undergraduate course on “La Francophonie Nord-Americaine.” She also served for three years as resident director of the CIC summer program at Université Laval in Quebec City, to which IU sends several students each year.

Will she ever return to live in Quebec? “Perhaps when we both retire,” says Auger. Until then there is still a lot of work to be done to enhance our understanding of the French spoken in Quebec, and the Picard spoken, less and less, in northern France.

Top new films in Italian

- **Baaria** by Giuseppe Tornatore is a semi-autobiographical epic of a family and village, Bagheria in Sicily, where Tornatore was born.
- **Vincere** by Marco Bellocchio is a drama that tells the story of Benito Mussolini’s first wife Ida Dalser, who helped fund his rise to political power and was then ruthlessly cast aside.
- **Fortapàsc** (Italian slang for Fort Apache, implying “under siege”) is a film by Marco Risi based on the true story of journalist Giancarlo Siani who in 1985 digs too deep into the workings of the Camorra mafia and ends up dead.

- **Il grande sogno** by Michele Placido is a nostalgic film about the social upheavals of the 1960s. It traces the path of a young woman from a traditional Roman Catholic family who gets caught up in the protest movement.
- **Si puó fare** by Giulio Manfredonia is a comedy and tells the story of Nello, a businessman who loses his job and finds himself appointed director of a cooperative of mental patients.

— Antonio Vitti
First year out a success for recent PhDs

After delving deeply into a topic and becoming expert in a particular field of study, being able to pass that knowledge on through teaching is almost as rewarding as realizing the publication of your dissertation. Teaching within their scholarly specializations was exciting for first-year assistant professors Bryan Donaldson, MA'04, PhD’08, and Jelena Todorovic, MA'06, PhD’09, who checked back with FRIT in May after being featured in these pages last year.

“The courses I taught [at the University of Wisconsin-Madison] were very different than what I taught at IU,” said Todorovic. While two of her 2009–10 courses were in Italian language, which she taught as a graduate student, two other courses were on literature, one an overview of Italian literature for undergraduates and one a graduate seminar on Italian literature of the 13th century. Todorovic called teaching a graduate seminar “a wonderful experience.” Although the medieval period is difficult because of the language and the completely different cultural context, by the end of the class, students were asking her for recommendations for further reading in this era.

Donaldson had a similar experience at the University of Texas-Austin, where he taught a graduate seminar in French historical linguistics. Both Donaldson and Todorovic have found their upper-level teaching more directly related to their research than anything they taught at IU. Donaldson is working on language change in French over time, in addition to his on-going research in language acquisition by advanced learners of French (the subject of his dissertation). He presented at the Second Language Research Forum at Michigan State University in October, where he saw several familiar faces from IUB, including Claire Renaud, MA’06, Kate Miller, MA’08, Jason Siegel, MA’08, Kelly Farmer, MA’10, and Professor Laurent Dekydtspotter. Donaldson is also preparing for an international conference in Lyon this fall, entitled “Le français en diachronie.”

(“First year,” continued on page 5)

Two new scholars, many interwoven fields

In the fall of 2009, FRIT welcomed two new assistant professors of French: Nicolas Valazza and Hall Bjørnstad. The intellectual community at IU, both within the department and beyond, has impressed the new faculty members, and they’ve been hard at work taking advantage of the wealth of research resources at Indiana University. The university’s strong collaborative environment echoes how each got his start in academia, and also provides a strong basis for re-creating that experience for their current and future students. Lest the confines of their period specializations in French literature seem narrow, both professors have found at Indiana a broad and welcoming array of interdisciplinary opportunities, which they have incorporated into not only their research but also their teaching.

Valazza came to IU from Johns Hopkins in Baltimore, Md., where he completed his PhD following undergraduate studies in Geneva. Upon his arrival in Baltimore, he met an art history professor who stimulated his interest in that field, to the point where Valazza decided to pursue his doctorate on the interrelationship between painting and literature. He was particularly interested in how, during the 19th century, painting played a central role in the development of literary forms, to the extent that art criticism became a literary training ground for many authors, including Baudelaire, Zola and Huysmans. Valazza’s dissertation analyzed the development of French art criticism in conjunction with the development of the painter as a narrative character.

Valazza’s work is currently taking him to the Kinsey Institute and to the Lilly Library, where he is researching censored materials that were published in Brussels during the 1860s. These works, published by Auguste Poulet-Malassis, include erotic literature and political pamphlets that were hostile to the government of the Second Empire in France. Although the publications usually did not indicate who wrote the text, these works were often written by well-known authors, including Baudelaire and Gautier. They frequently included illustrations by Félicien Rops, whose work establishes some very interesting links between text and image. In the future, Valazza would like to explore the possibility of organizing an exhibit of Rops’ work here at IUB. Valazza has been astonished by the richness of the rare collections preserved at both the Lilly Library and the Kinsey Institute.

Multiple interdisciplinary opportunities on campus bring together scholars and graduate students from a variety of fields. Valazza appreciates, in particular, the large offering of different perspectives and intellectual stimulation provided by the 19th Century Forum. He also enjoys the freedom he has here at Indiana to integrate other disciplines, such as art history, into his teaching. Courses such as “French Art Criticism” and “The Painter as a Literary Character” engage students at the intersection of painting and literature. Valazza describes the highlight of his teaching as reaching that point at the end of the semester where he can trace back through the readings and discussions to see how much the students have accomplished, and to see how the students’ consciousness of art has developed.

Bjørnstad made his way to Bloomington from Oslo, by way of Princeton. As an undergraduate at the University of Oslo he studied philosophy, and was fascinated by the relationship between literature and philosophy. Many of the texts he was reading were French, and a group of professors and mentors from the University’s strong French section pulled him into the field. The choice of becoming a dix-septiémiste came later as he became fascinated by Blaise Pascal’s sharp examination in his Pensées of the darker side of modernity and what Pascal calls “the misery of man without God”.

His fascination with Pascal developed from a class paper into Bjørnstad’s dissertation, which will soon be published as Créature sans Créateur: Pour une anthropologie baroque dans les Pensées de Pascal (Presses de l’Université Laval, Canada). Bjørnstad’s recent scholarship builds on his work on Pascal but has widened in scope to explore how 17th-century

(“New scholars,” continued on page 7)
Guillaume Ansart spent the year on sabbatical in Paris preparing an edition of Condorcet's writings on the United States for Classiques Garnier and an English translation of the same texts for Penn State University Press.

Julie Auger had a chance to present her research in two very different settings in 2009-10. In September, she was a visiting researcher for a week in Hamburg, Germany, where she delivered two lectures on Picard. In February, she was the keynote lecturer for the Alabama chapter of the AATF, where she discussed whether Picard and Québécois are languages or dialects.

Living in Utah since his retirement, Peter Bondanella had a busy year giving a series of keynote lectures including at the Warwick University Conference on Italian Screen Studies, the Lauro de Bosis Symposium of Harvard University, and the IUB Symposium on New Trends in Modern and Contemporary Italian Cinema (see page 6).

For Margaret Gray, this year’s highlights included an invitation to lecture in Mumbai, India, on Nobel Laureate Albert Camus on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of his death. She also enjoyed the far less exotic occasion of joining four departmental colleagues to participate in a conference on “Proust and His Era” at the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana.

Rosemary Lloyd was delighted to be elected to the Australian Humanities Academy in November 2009.

In December Emanuel Mickel attended the MLA convention in Philadelphia, where he had the pleasure of seeing former IU students Catherine Perry (BA'87, MA'92) now at Notre Dame; Michèle Schaal (MA'05), a PhD candidate working in Berlin; and Kristin Juel (MA’97, PhD’02) now at St. Michael’s College. His article on the genre satire and Aucassin et Nicolette was recently published in Romance Philology.

Samuel Rosenberg has just ended a five-year term as editor of ENCOMIA, the annual publication of the International Courtly Literature Society. He presented a paper at the 2010 annual congress of medievalists in Kalamazoo, and he has an essay in the forthcoming volume Le Tournoi de Chauvency: Lettres, musique et histoire en Lorraine médiévale, edited by Mireille Chazan, Nancy Freeman Regalado and Jean-Claude Mullet.

Kevin Rottet enjoyed a sabbatical leave in Spring 2010. This summer, he presented papers at the Congrès Mondial de la Linguistique française in New Orleans, and the North American Association of Celtic Language Teachers, on the Isle of Skye in Scotland. He and Rudy Professor Emeritus Albert Valdman plan to begin working on a historical and etymological dictionary of Louisiana French.

Colleen Ryan-Scheutz has had a busy year collaborating with

Top new books in French

- L’Elégance du hérisson by Muriel Barbery (Prix des Libraires, 2007) is the story of a concierge in a ritzy Paris neighborhood who conceals her intelligence but is found out by a precocious 12-year-old boy, who becomes a savior and presents her with a life of intellectual and spiritual fulfillment.
- Trois femmes puissantes, by French-Senegalese author Marie Ndiaye, won the prestigious Prix Goncourt in 2009. The novel tells of three women who become involved in the struggle of a former French soldier in the Franco-Algerian war (1954–62) to cope with the psychic wounds of the conflict 40 years later.
- La délicatesse by David Foenkinos is a novel of love, loss, grief, and rebirth for a young woman. After the death of her true love, Nathalie lives behind a wall of solitude for several years until she meets Markus, who seems the least likely man to reawaken her heart. (Prix des Dunes, 2010).
- L’enigme du retour by Haitian-Canadian writer Dany Laferrière (Prix Médicis, 2009). After 33 years of exile in Montreal, a Haitian ex-patriate returns to his native land to hold a spiritual funeral for his father, and discovers that some ties are never broken.

— Margaret Gray

Top new books in Italian

- Stabat Mater by Tiziano Scarpa tells the story of a young 18th-century Italian violinist at an orphanage whose life changes abruptly when a priest and composer named Antonio Vivaldi becomes her new teacher.
- L’istinto del lupo by Massimo Lugli, is a novel in the “noir” style whose plot revolves around the actions of a young man named Lupo, the Wolf, who operates in a dark and almost unrecognizable Rome. The novel touches on social issues but never loses its investigative tension.
- Le perfezioni provvisorie by Gianrico Carofiglio is the fourth novel in a series featuring the protagonist Guido Guerrieri who faces a difficult legal case that becomes an intricate murder mystery. Carofiglio, who is a judge, masters both the description of the legal context and of the city of Bari, where Guerrieri lives.
- Acciaio by Silvia Avallone is a powerful book about the coming of age of a giant in the project buildings of Turin city Piombino, on the Tirrenian coast. Anna’s dangerous friendship with Francesca is developed with subtlety even as it spins off into the most violent and tragic actions.
- Milano è una selva oscura by Laura Pariani won the Premio Campiello prize this year and tells of the (mis)adventures of Dante, a homeless man in 1969 Milan. Through a masterful synthesis of styles, the story draws a parallel between the wanderings of the famous Dante Alighieri and those of the modern Dante in an inhospitable industrial city.

— Andrea Ciccarelli
Todorovic is continuing her study, begun in her PhD dissertation, of the alternating poetry and prose in Dante's Vita Nova. She is examining 13th-century manuscripts and literary sources to find out how Dante was influenced to write in this style. After a trip to Florence this summer, she will continue developing her dissertation into her first book project.

Presenting at the prestigious International Boccaccio Conference (University of Massachusetts, April/May 2010), Todorovic also met other IU alumni and faculty. Matteo Benassi, MA'07, Beatrice Arduini, MA'05, PhD'08, and Professor H. Wayne Storey all gave papers at the conference. Todorovic's predecessor in the Department of French and Italian at Wisconsin, Christopher Kleinhenz, BA'64, MA'66, PhD'69, was on the program as well.

When asked what advice they would give to others making the transition from PhD student to full-fledged faculty member, both Todorovic and Donaldson agreed that talking with colleagues and getting involved in departmental activities were key to making a smooth transition. "I've gotten helpful feedback from colleagues on manuscripts and conference abstracts," says Donaldson. "Overall, the goal is to move beyond the mindset of a student and become integrated as a member of the faculty. At Wisconsin, reports Todorovic, this is facilitated through the assignment of an oversight committee comprised of tenured colleagues, one each to guide the new professor in research, teaching, and service. This system, as well as less-structured support from colleagues, made for a work environment where "I never felt lost for a moment."

On a personal level, Todorovic misses Bloomington but has embraced Madison as her new home. "At Wisconsin you can get a German beer at the student union and enjoy lakeside views on the terrace," says Todorovic, "It's really a beautiful campus." She was also married in April, to Igor Stanojev, a fellow Serbian native who recently completed a PhD in wireless communications.

Donaldson, in the meantime, has been busy with his new baby boy, Andrew Graham, born in December. "He's a cheerful little guy," reports the proud new father, "and we're all enjoying Austin."

With a successful year behind them, we hope both Todorovic and Donaldson will continue to prosper in their new academic settings, while using the skills learned here at IUB.
Italian cinephiles gather in Bloomington

From portrayals of the mafia and eroticism to the legacies of Fellini and Rosellini, the topics of the Symposium on New Trends in Modern and Contemporary Italian Cinema held April 7-10, 2010 covered a wide spectrum in Italian film studies. The conference was the brain child of Professor Antonio Vitti, who had experience organizing several conferences in this field before coming to IU in January 2009 from Wake Forest University. With assistance from colleagues Colleen Ryan-Scheutz and Andrea Ciccarelli, the conference was a big success, with nearly 60 attendees and 16 panels on various themes. Attendance at the film showings, which were open to the public, was even higher.

Acclaimed Italian film director Giuseppe Piccioni presented four of his films, and engaged in lively discussion afterwards with conference attendees. There were four keynote addresses by Professor Emeritus Peter Bondanella (IU), Emiliano Morreale of the Italian state broadcast giant RAI, renowned scholar Gian Piero Brunetta (University of Padua), and the late Peter Brunette (Wake Forest University), who passed away unexpectedly this summer at the Taormina Film Festival. Playwright, essayist, film director, and translator Enrico Bernardi also presented a paper and showed his new film. In addition, numerous short films were shown, many presented by graduate student Edward Bowen.

Students in our Italian graduate program made a good showing at the symposium overall: two MA students and four PhD students presented papers. Alumni Philip Balma, MA’01, PhD’07, now a professor at the University of Connecticut, and Ryan Calabretta-Sajder, MA’07, currently an instructor at Rice University, gave presentations that were well-received. In addition, Vito Zagarrio, who taught at IU as a visiting professor in Spring 2008, took the opportunity to visit Bloomington again with his family and shared his knowledge in a panel on marginality and exclusion.

“It was extremely invigorating and created a real academic community among students, scholars, artists and historians from North America and Italy,” said Ryan-Scheutz of the first annual conference. “I would add hats off to Antonio for all of the organizational work and bringing together such a broad and important group of special guests whose interests spanned from film directing and production to film criticism and scholarship.” Plans are already underway for next year’s event, to take place April 14-16, 2011.
Jessica L. Kaufman, BA’99, is an associate in the New York office of San Francisco-based law firm Morrison & Foerster. She received her law degree from New York University. In September, Kaufman married Christopher W. Anderson, BA’99, an assistant professor of media culture at the College of Staten Island in New York. The couple met as students at IU.

An exhibition of paintings by Eric C. March, BA/BFA’99, opened in October at the Park Slope Gallery in Brooklyn, N.Y. March's first solo show at the gallery in 2006 was composed entirely of Brooklyn cityscapes. The show was a great success with the majority of the 50+ pieces selling at the opening. As a result, the gallery owner asked him back and the October show, Moments in Time: Queens to Coney Island is a development of March's approach to painting the city. He lives in Long Island City, N.Y.

2000s

Katherine Duffy Werwa, BA’00, is a senior managing editor for Random House in New York City. She married Keith Werwa in May 2008. The couple lives in Brooklyn, N.Y.

Katharine Perry Carraway, BA’01, is a teacher at Thomas Edison School in Morton Grove, Ill. She lives in Chicago.

Kylie A. Peppler, BA’02, is the recipient of one of four 2009 Governor’s Awards for Tomorrow’s Leaders, awarded in December by Indiana governor Mitch Daniels and the Indiana Humanities Council. Peppler is an assistant professor in the IU School of Education in Bloomington. Established in 2003, the Governor’s Award honors Hoosiers between ages 19 and 30 who strive for and attain excellence as entrepreneurial leaders, volunteers, and scholars.

Jean M. Candido, MA’06, is a contributing fashion and beauty blogger for The Cheap Chica’s Guide to Style (www.cheapchicas.com). She also maintains her own fashion blog, L.E. Défilé (http://ledefile.wordpress.com). Candido attends Moore College of Art and Design in Philadelphia, where she is studying fashion design. She lives in Wallingford, Pa.

Lindsey J. Harrell, BA’08, who is originally from Merrillville, Ind., teaches 9th-12th grade French at Reed High School in New Orleans. She is one of a number of IU alumni teaching in New Orleans’ neediest public schools through teachNOLA, a joint initiative of New Schools for New Orleans and the Recovery School District to recruit teachers for New Orleans public schools.

Karen “Kemmie” Mitzell, BA’08, of Westfield, Ind., is pursuing a master’s degree in the French literature program at IU Bloomington. She is one of a number of IU alumni teaching in New Orleans public schools.

Over the course of their first year here, professors Bjørnstad and Valazza have come to appreciate both living in Bloomington and interacting with students and colleagues. They agree that the city’s provincial feel and world-class musical offerings are a perfect pairing. The students here at IU have made their own good impression: with their appreciation for educational opportunities and an enthusiasm for in-class discussion, they have the professors hard at work developing new and challenging courses for future semesters.

Annual departmental awards

Grace P. Young Graduate Awards
Tamara Carrell
Erin Myers (MA’09)
Jason Siegel (MA’08)

Grace P. Young Undergraduate Awards
Anna M. Cox (BA’10)
Maria V. Iglesias (BA’10)
Monica Debeler (BA’10)
Emily Ratteman (BA’10)

Mario & Katrina Vangeli Undergraduate Award
Stephen Hiller (BA’10)

Lander MacClintock Memorial Award
Anthony Nussmeier (MA’08)

John K. Hyde Award
Kimberly L. Long

Quentin M. Hope Memorial Award
Weston Macklem (BA’10)

Mary V. Lèbano Memorial Award
Elizabeth Swanger (BA’10)

Albert and Agnes Kuersteiner Memorial Prize
Alexandra Moxley

Peter Cannings Memorial Prize for French linguistics
Kate Miller (MA’08)

Charlotte F. Gerrard Memorial Prize
Albert Lau (BA’10)

Bangkokian in Residence Award
Zahraa Al-Abdulmalik (BA’09)

Over the course of their first year here, professors Bjørnstad and Valazza have come to appreciate both living in Bloomington and interacting with students and colleagues. They agree that the city’s provincial feel and world-class musical offerings are a perfect pairing. The students here at IU have made their own good impression: with their appreciation for educational opportunities and an enthusiasm for in-class discussion, they have the professors hard at work developing new and challenging courses for future semesters.

("New scholars," continued from page 3) writers navigated the passage between a particular instance and a general principle. Understanding the complexities of the early modern culture of exemplarity might help us today to think about originality, the value of historical knowledge, and how to take action in the face of uncertainty.

Bjørnstad incorporates philosophy, political science and anthropology into his work, and he participates in various interdisciplinary groups on campus such as Renaissance Studies, the Center for Theoretical Inquiries in the Humanities and the 18th Century Studies Group. This interdisciplinary approach also extends to his teaching strategies: in his graduate courses, Bjørnstad uses response papers to highlight not only different viewpoints, but also the differences that stem from discipline and methodology. Bjørnstad will spend part of the summer developing his spring 2011 course, F362 “La France 1500-1800,” utilizing a grant from the Campus Writing Program. This course will explicitly integrate writing as a component of the learning process, rather than just as an output. Bjørnstad identifies his favorite part of teaching as the evolution of discussions where students are able to develop a fuller understanding of the issues at stake.

Over the course of their first year here, professors Bjørnstad and Valazza have come to appreciate both living in Bloomington and interacting with students and colleagues. They agree that the city’s provincial feel and world-class musical offerings are a perfect pairing. The students here at IU have made their own good impression: with their appreciation for educational opportunities and an enthusiasm for in-class discussion, they have the professors hard at work developing new and challenging courses for future semesters.

frit summer 2010 ~ 7
Lander MacClintock: The adventurous scholar

“T is my opinion that the danger of Communism [in Italy] has been averted,” said Lander MacClintock upon his return from a research trip to Rome in 1948. It was a different era then, in which the political future of Europe was in question and reports from those who spent time there, even if their focus was literary and not political, was of great interest to readers of the Indianapolis Star, where the above quote appeared on Sept. 19, 1948. MacClintock was then in his 18th year as a faculty member in the Department of French and Italian, a few years away from publication of his most celebrated work The Age of Pirandello (IU Press, 1951).

MacClintock was born in Aurora, N.Y., in 1889 and was a pupil at John Dewey's Laboratory School at the University of Chicago before enrolling in the University itself at the age of 16 (“three years too young,” he said). His studies took him to the Sorbonne in Paris in 1908-10, to the University of Berlin in 1914 (where he received letters from his mother warning of the impending arrival of Cossacks), and to the University of Florence in 1915. He completed his PhD at the University of Chicago in 1917 and came to IU in 1920.

His early life was marked by travel and adventures, which he loved to recount in later years. While studying in Italy he was arrested during a Fascist demonstration, although he was just an innocent bystander and quickly released. In 1919, MacClintock was traveling in Canada when he was again erroneously arrested, this time accused of being a German spy looking for U-boat harbors. He and his wife Carol, a musicologist, made their home in Bloomington a gathering place for musicians and artists, where MacClintock would reminisce about his season as a minor player with the San Carlos Opera Company before World War I.

MacClintock’s scholarly work focused on literary criticism and interpretation and includes Sainte-Beuve’s Critical Theory and Practice After 1849 (University of Chicago Press, 1920) and The Contemporary Drama of Italy (Little, Brown, and Company, 1920). He was also a gifted translator, publishing a version of Pirandello’s Six Characters in Search of an Author that was performed at IU in 1959. MacClintock was one of the first Fulbright Scholars from Indiana University and, thus funded, pursued research in Rome on the dissemination and reception in Italy of American literature and translation.

MacClintock retired in 1960 and enjoyed a relatively restful time in Bloomington until he passed away 20 years later. Shortly after his death, Carol MacClintock endowed a fund for a student prize in his honor, and the first Lander MacClintock Memorial Award was given to Brion Scott in 1981.

“I always tell my students not to wait for the next world, but instead to get the most out of this,” MacClintock told a reporter for the Indiana Daily Student in 1947. “And it is the same with education: they only get out of it what they put into it.” The department continues to celebrate the legacy of one who lived life to the fullest by rewarding students who apply themselves in their studies. Since MacClintock’s research and teaching included both French and Italian literature and culture, the MacClintock Award is given in alternate years to a student of French and a student of Italian. In March 2010, the 29th annual prize was awarded to Anthony Nussmeier, a PhD student in Italian.

To support the Lander MacClintock Memorial Fund, please send a check to the IU Foundation, P.O. Box 500, Bloomington, IN 47402, with the memo line “Lander MacClintock Fund” on your check. Or you can give online at iufoundation.iu.edu, indicating the name of the fund when you “give now.”

Top new films in French

• **Le hérisson** by Mona Achache is a cinematic adaptation of the award-winning novel by Muriel Barbery (see pg. 4) about a secretly intellectual concierge.

• **Gainsbourg (Vie héroïque)** by Joann Sfar is a biographical film about the life of iconic French singer-songwriter Serge Gainsbourg, from his childhood under Nazi occupation to his rise to international stardom in the 1960s and his death in 1991.

• **Harragas** by Algerian-born director Merzak Allouache describes the odyssey of a group of illegal immigrants crossing the sea from Algeria to Spain.

• **L’Autre Dumas** by Safi Nebbou, is a film about the relationship between the famous novelist Alexandre Dumas (played by Gérard Depardieu) and his uncredited co-author Auguste Maquet, which is further strained when Maquet is mistaken for Dumas by a beautiful woman.

• In **Un prophète** by Jacques Audiard, an illiterate young French Arab is serving six years in a French prison in which the Corsican inmates exert control. Circumstances lead to the man’s being tapped by the sadistic Corsican cell leader to do jobs for him, and he slowly builds up his own power base.

— Oana Panaite & Isabel Piedmont-Smith