

Indiana University College of Arts & Sciences Alumni Association

# French & Italian

Alumni Newsletter

Vol. XX

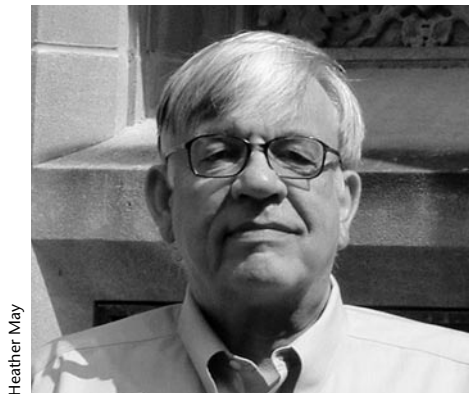
Summer 2006

## Michael Berkvam retires after 35 years in the department

Professor Michael Berkvam retired at the end of the 2005–06 academic year after 35 years in the Department of French and Italian at Indiana University. His academic career started at St. Olaf College, where he majored in French, English, and history. After living in France for two years following his graduation from college, he returned to the United States and enrolled in the University of Wisconsin–Madison as a graduate student in French. He earned an MA and a PhD in French from UW–Madison.

After another extended stay in France, Berkvam came to Indiana University in 1971 as a lecturer and then became an assistant professor in 1973. He has served as a professor of French for the Department of French and Italian and as a member of the Honors College and the West European Studies faculties. In addition, he has taught for the Intensive Freshman Seminar program during the summer months. Although he came to IU as a scholar specializing in 18th-century French literature, history, and culture, Berkvam decided to return to his initial love of contemporary French literature. He developed courses in areas such as post-1945 French literature, war and literature, women's writing, francophone literature, and the cinema of the New Wave. Some of Berkvam's special interests have been the decades of the 1950s and 1960s and the rise of a consumer culture, as well as recent writings by French and francophone women. Throughout his career as a scholar of French literature, Berkvam has drawn upon his early (and continued) training as a historian, working to place the literature he studies within its social, political, and historical context.

While at IU, Berkvam published *Correspondence and Collected Papers of Pierre-Michel Hennin* with the Voltaire Foundation in Oxford, England (1980); *Liberty, Equality ... or Death: The French Revolu-*



Heather May

Michael Berkvam

*tion, 1789–1794* (1989); and *Writing the Story of France in World War II: Literature and Memory, 1942–1958* (2000). In addition to his books, Berkvam has written a number of articles covering a wide range of topics and eras. Most recently, he published an article titled “France in World War II: Literature and Memory,” in *Proceedings of the Western Society for French History*.

Although his publication record is solid, Berkvam's true calling was teaching. He won the IU Distinguished Teaching Award early in his career (1983) and followed that award with many others, including Teaching Excellence Recognition Awards from the IU Board of Trustees (1996 and 1997), a Distinguished Service Award from the Campus Life Division of IU, and a Lilly Endowment Teaching Fellowship.

An intrepid reporter from the Department of French and Italian recently interrupted the first month of Berkvam's retirement to talk to him about his career, his view of the academy, and his plans for life after retirement.

### How did you wind up at IU?

I wanted to stay in the Midwest, so I applied to colleges and universities in this area. The farthest east I applied was to some schools in western Pennsylvania. I originally came to IU as a replacement

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## Department hosts inaugural season of workshops on francophone studies

In 2005–06, the Department of French and Italian hosted the first of a series of workshops on francophone studies organized by Professor Oana Panaïté and sponsored by a New Perspectives Grant from the New Frontiers in the Humanities Program, an initiative of the Lilly Foundation. The next event of the series is scheduled to take place in November 2006, when Professor Bernard Cerquiglini, director of the Center for French and Francophone Studies at Louisiana State University, will be a guest lecturer in the Department of French and Italian.

On March 28, 2006, Françoise Lionnet gave a lecture titled *Cultivating Mere Gardens? Comparative Francophonies and Disciplinary Proximities* at the Indiana University Memorial Union. Lionnet is professor of French and francophone studies and interim associate dean and co-director of the multicampus research group on transnational and transcolonial studies at the University of California at Los Angeles. Her lecture examined the issues raised by the contemporary broadening of the field of comparative literature to include diverse approaches

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## Berkvam

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for someone on leave, and I was not a unanimous choice for the position. The department at the time was very focused on literature, and there was some resistance to my desire to include things like civilization and history in language courses. Over the years, however, I have had the opportunity to create, restructure, and teach a number of specialized courses that I would not have been able to develop elsewhere. IU has provided me with an environment in which I have been able to teach courses that were a little bit off the beaten path of the typical survey course. Had I taught in a smaller school I would never have been able to develop and teach so many different courses. I also had the support of several of the department chairs I worked under, and it was this support and this curricular flexibility that kept me at IU.

**You have won a number of teaching awards. What do you feel are the reasons that you are a successful and beloved professor?**

If there is one rule of thumb that I have tried to follow and to share with my colleagues it is never to teach a course that I wouldn't want to take myself. I come from a blue-collar community in northern Wisconsin. Most of my friends growing up stayed in that community and did not attend college. I was fortunate to meet two wonderful teachers in high school who stretched the curriculum to include materials outside of commonly taught principles and who encouraged me to study and learn in a more constructive and meaningful way. Tom Frisbie, who taught American history, discussed American foreign policy in a thoughtful and critically aware manner, and Pearle Landfair incorporated Greek and Roman mythology into her English courses. Mrs. Landfair was a former WAC drill sergeant who also created a very disciplined classroom. Their teaching and their styles have been very important to me as I attempt to engage my own students in the critical analysis of literature, culture, and history. I want my students to know the foundations of French literature, but I also hope to engage them by using contemporary texts and other media that speak more directly to their own experiences.

I also feel that I have been successful because I love being in the classroom. The classroom is a very special place with an intimacy that you don't find anywhere else. Every semester is a new challenge, and each professor has 15 weeks to develop a close and unique relationship with that individual group of people. Each class is different, and I believe that it is important to recognize these differences — I do not

treat students in a class as though they are a homogenous group of people. I try to learn about my students as people (through assignments like having them write their autobiographies) so that I can engage them as individuals and help bring each student into the subject matter.

Professors are lucky because we have the ability to stay young through our students — each year I am one year older, but my students stay the same age. It is important, as a professor, to stay young and to be willing to adapt your teaching methods over the years to respond to changes in student behaviors and needs.

**What are the largest changes you have seen over the years in your students?**

Students today are much more visually oriented than they used to be, and they tend to expect to be entertained. The contemporary visual culture of the TV and computer create a passiveness in the ways students approach education. When I first started teaching, I lectured almost all the time. I came to realize, with experience, that I preferred more discussion and interaction, and that the students did, too. I no longer hide behind the comfort of a lectern, but allow the students to determine the direction of the class, of a discussion. I find out what is important to them and then follow it.

This approach requires me to be willing to take some chances, because I have to be willing to be challenged, and I have to try to make coherent a wide range of questions and topics brought up by the students.

I also try to get the students to engage critically in the material, so in my culture/civilization courses I added film series, which, along with literature, allows the students to analyze the culture of France during the period we are studying in more detail.

**Is there a legacy that you hope to leave behind at IU?**

I would not use the word legacy. Everyone is replaceable. I understand that they are still planning to hold classes in the fall. I can't believe they would do that without me, but so it goes.

I would really like to believe that I have had a positive effect on some students over the years that will be carried on to others. There is a ripple affect with teaching in that if you touch one person, it will fan out. I just want to engage my students and to turn on that switch that makes them want to pursue knowledge and inquiry. The one thing I think you can do as a professor is pay attention to your students — respect them, observe them, pay attention. Students respond to this attention with surprise and then with increased confidence in themselves and in their abilities.

**How do you intend to spend your retirement?**

I'm not really sure yet. My wife has a list of things she wants me to do on a daily basis, so I've been taking care of that. I'm also working on writing about my childhood in Eau Claire. I love my home town because it was home to a very cohesive group of people. I would like to think about those people and that place in more detail. I don't yet know what I'll write but I know that the title will be: "The Escalator at Woolworth's." I've written a few things about my family, all of whom were immigrants in the 19th century, and I find this kind of writing and reflection to be very fulfilling as well as a lot of fun.

I expect that I will spend a great deal of time reading; as a self-described "book store junkie," I already have piles of books I hope to read. I'm looking forward to being able to travel more readily and am excited to be able to go abroad to see my daughter and granddaughters in France more frequently. I'm also a baseball fan and look forward to following the Cincinnati Reds this season and being in the ballpark more often.

The hardest thing will be replacing the very special relationship I had with my students. I will miss them madly; I'll miss the energy they bring me and the give-and-take of the learning process. I grew so much from my work with them. I expect that I will do some work with adult literacy programs to try to maintain that spark as long as possible.

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## Workshops

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and disciplines, discussing the effects this broadening has had on studies of francophone literature and gender studies. The lecture was well-attended, both by members of the Department of French and Italian and by the larger Indiana University community. In addition to her lecture, Lionnet was a guest of the doctoral seminar "Studies in Francophone Literature: From Franz Fanon to Édouard Glissant" attended by students from the departments of French and Italian, Comparative Literature, English, and African American and African Diaspora Studies.

Panaité proclaimed the first year of the workshop series a tremendous success, as was apparent by "the extremely engaging discussions among participants, which lasted well after the events ended, and, more important, the great impact topics such as the politics of literature, the controversial French colonial legacy, and the need for a comparative approach in literary studies have had for expanding our students' intellectual horizon."

# Faculty news

**G**uillaume Ansart contributed a chapter, “From Voltaire to Raynal and Diderot’s *Histoire des deux Indes*: The French Philosophes and Colonial America,” to a volume titled *America Seen Through European Eyes* (edited by Aurelian Craiutu, of Indiana University’s Department of Political Science) currently under consideration by Penn State University Press. He is also currently completing two articles on Condorcet: “*L’Esprit des lois* Revisited: Raynal, Diderot, Condorcet, on the American Revolution,” and “Condorcet, Social Mathematics, and Women’s Rights.” Ansart looks forward to teaching a new graduate seminar this fall: “Writing History in France: From Enlightenment to Romanticism,” covering the 18th and 19th centuries.

During the past year, **Julie Auger** published an article on variation in French in the *Encyclopedia of Language and Linguistics*. She gave lectures at the University of Illinois and at McGill University, and she gave a keynote lecture at the *Les français d’ici* conference held at Queen’s University in June 2006. She also presented a paper

on the importance of recognizing the existence of a standard Québec French norm in Québec schools. In March, she gave the opening lecture at the 20th *Journées de linguistique* conference in Québec City, a conference that she and some friends created when she was an MA student at Université Laval.

Professors **Julia Conaway Bondanella** and **Peter Bondanella** recently completed their edition of Dante’s *Divine Comedy* for the Barnes and Noble Classics Series with the appearance of the volume on *Paradise*. The three volumes contain the complete series of Gustave Doré’s illustrations plus nearly 500 pages of original commentary on the poem, as well as lengthy introductory essays that explain the historical context, sources, structure, literary character, and impact of Dante’s epic poem.

**Andrea Ciccarelli** spent the past year working primarily on two critical projects: one examining the relationship between the idea of the sacred in Manzoni’s poetics, and one explicating the effect of literary tradition in Ungaretti and Montale. The two essays will be published in *Giornale storico della letteratura italiana*. Ciccarelli also worked on a project on Gadda and Manzoni, which he hopes to complete this year. In addition to chairing the department, a task he enjoys very much, Ciccarelli continued as director of the College Arts and Humanities Institute. He has secured funds for a project devoted to the concept of “solitude” in western thought, which will bring major authors, including the Nobel Poets Laureate Robert Pinsky, W.S. Merwin, and Louise Glück, to visit Indiana University in the coming year. In addition to their works as authors Pinsky and Merwin have translated Italian and French classics such as Dante, Baudelaire, Flaubert, and Zola, and will therefore also give talks to the department about their experiences as translators. In addition to his own writing, research, and teaching, Ciccarelli has been serving on key university committees such as the search committee for the new dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. Although he has found serving on the search committee to be an enriching experience, he says he will sorely miss Dean Kumble R. Subbaswamy for his intelligent leadership and his clear love for languages and foreign affairs.

In 2005, **Laurent Dekydtspotter** published four articles on the acquisition and processing of French as a second language and one on the acquisition of German;

and he co-edited a collection of papers from the Generative Approaches to Second Language Acquisition 7 conference held at Indiana University. Dekydtspotter conducted experiments with the help of French linguistics graduate students Bryan Donaldson, Amanda Edmonds, Audrey Liljestrand, Rebecca Petrush, Claire Renaud, and Ben Trotter, in addition to ongoing research cooperation with Rex A. Sprouse (Indiana University, Germanic studies) and Bonnie Schwartz (University of Hawaii). Findings from his research were presented at Generative Approaches to Language Acquisition in Siena, Italy; at the Second Language Research Forum at Columbia Teachers College; at Boston University’s Conference on Language Development; at the Linguistic Society of America Meeting; and at Generative Approaches to Second Language Acquisition, held by the University of Calgary in Banff. Dekydtspotter is also a member of the newly formed Department of Second Language Studies, reflecting growing interest in the acquisition of a second language and in the housing of two grammatical systems in a single mind.

**Margot Gray** enjoyed the adventure of a year in Aix-en-Provence for 2004–05, where her husband spent his sabbatical in cafés, her sons picked up French and obscene gestures in equally terrifying quantities at the local public school, and she was resident director of the study-abroad program shared by Indiana University, the University of Wisconsin, and the University of Michigan. Her essay on Camus’s novel *La Peste* will appear in *The Cambridge Companion to Camus*; and an article on Simone de Beauvoir’s last novel, *Les Belles Images*, is forthcoming in *Studies in Twentieth- and Twenty-First-Century Literature*. Gray has been invited to participate in a six-day seminar on “The Impact of Proust” hosted by the Rockefeller Study Center in a villa overlooking Lake Como in the Italian Alps (and asks that this not be held against her).

In the 2005–06 academic year, Professor **Rosemary Lloyd** attended conferences in Austin, Texas, and in Montreal (where she presented a translation project in a session chaired by Professor Emeritus **Samuel Rosenberg**). She was happy to be able to catch up with former graduate students **Juliana Starr**, PhD’95; **Sayeeda Mamoon**, BA’84, MA’87, PhD’96; and **Joyce Johnston**, MA’97, PhD’01, while in Austin, and to have the chance to catch up with **Julie Baker**, MA’97, PhD’02, at the MLA meet-

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## French & Italian

This newsletter is published by the Indiana University Alumni Association, in cooperation with the Department of French & Italian and the College of Arts and Sciences Alumni Association, to encourage alumni interest in and support for Indiana University. For activities and membership information, call (800) 824-3044 or send e-mail to [ualumni@indiana.edu](mailto:ualumni@indiana.edu).

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## Faculty news

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ing in Washington, D.C. Lloyd participated in a unique special event during the year by presenting commentary on the poems used for a concert of French mélodies and German lieder with pianist Jean-Louis Haguenuer and singer Gilles Ragon. Lloyd was also busy with the following publications this year: the *Cambridge Companion to Baudelaire*, which she edited in addition to writing one chapter and translating two others; an article on chocolate (another of her passions) for *The Ryder* magazine; and work with current doctoral student **Olga Amaric** on the Juliette Adam manuscript collection at the Lilly Library. Finally, Lloyd says she was greatly honored and delighted to be elected a Fellow Emerita of New Hall, Cambridge.

**Jacques E. Merceron** is currently wrapping up a project on French place name puns, imaginary etymologies, and legends, while starting a new project on the Virgin Mary from the Middle Ages to modern times, particularly on the legends and rituals that are associated with the “Our Lady” titles. As part of the first project, his *Florilège de l'humour et de l'imaginaire des noms de lieux en France (du Moyen Age à nos jours)* has been accepted for publication by Éditions du Seuil (Paris) and should be released in late August 2006. Merceron published an article titled “Sur les pas de la ‘Langue de Bœuf’: le rôle des bovidés dans les légendes toponymiques” in *Mythologie Française* (special issue: *Le Taureau et la Déesse*, 2006). Also for that project, he attended the Modern Language Association convention in Washington, D.C., to deliver a paper titled “Survivances et souvenirs des Francs et des Carolingiens dans les légendes toponymiques” on Dec. 29, 2005, and to

attend the two sessions he organized for the Rencesvals Society for the Study of Romance Epics meeting. For the Virgin Mary project, he attended a colloquium called “Espaces thérapeutiques et saints guérisseurs” in Gaillac (France), on Dec. 9–11, 2005, where he gave a paper called “Les Notre-Dame de Bon Lait: dévotions, rituels et antécédents préchrétiens, spécialement en Bretagne” (to be published in the *Proceedings*, 2006). Additionally, he attended the 27th Congrès de la Société de Mythologie Française in Yerville, Normandy (Aug. 26–28, 2005). Merceron received a 2006 Summer Faculty Fellowship to work on part of an essay-dictionary about the Virgin Mary from the Middle Ages to Modern Times. He also greatly enjoys coordinating the FRIT Student Faculty Forum series and seeing students blossom as they deliver papers in front of friendly and supportive audiences. This year he served on the University Promotion Advisory Committee.

In the summer of 2005, **Emanuel Mickel** spent two weeks in Rome to do research for a work he is writing involving Roman literature and art. Mickel will be traveling overseas again this fall, as he has been invited to the University of Cambridge for the Michaelmas term as a visiting scholar. He expects to be in Cambridge from September through mid-December. Mickel has also just finished a chapter for the new MLA-sponsored book on the Chanson de Roland, scheduled for publication in 2007.

In the past year, **Oana Panaïté** gave a talk on the topic of individual and communal construction of the self in Caribbean literature at an interdisciplinary conference organized in Martinique by the Université des Antilles et de la Guyane, and she presented at the 2005 Annual Convention of the Modern Language Association on the critical stance and discourse of contemporary French fiction. Panaïté has published an article on the topic of diversity and universality in francophone thought in the periodical *Palabres* and has articles forthcoming in *Études littéraires*, *French Forum* as well as in two scholarly volumes published by L'Harmattan and Honoré Champion. This spring, through a New Perspectives Grant, Panaïté initiated a series of workshops titled “The Poetics and Politics of French Language,” which hosts lectures and seminars delivered by renowned guest scholars in the field of French and francophone studies (see story on page 1).

**Kevin Rottet**, along with FRIT alumnus **Tom Klingler**, PhD'92, and colleagues Deborah Piston-Hatlen (West European

studies) and Clancy Clements (linguistics), finished co-editing a Festschrift for Albert Valdman titled *History, Society, and Variation in Pidgin and Creole Languages*, to be published by John Benjamins (see story on page 5). Rottet also published articles in the edited volume *Français d'Amérique: Approches Morphosyntaxiques* and the journal *Word*, as well as several book reviews. He co-presented papers at the Linguistic Society of America (with Rex Sprouse) and at the Symposium Les Variétés de français en Amérique du Nord, in Moncton. Editing work continues on the Dictionary of Louisiana French as *Spoken in Cajun, Creole, and Native American Communities*. The target completion date is Aug. 31, 2006, with publication expected to follow in early 2007.

**Massimo Scalabrini** has an essay titled “Città e campagna nel macaronico folenghiano” forthcoming in *Esperienze letterarie* (2006). Through a Lester J. Cappon Fellowship in Documentary Editing from the Newberry Library and a College Arts and Humanities Institute Fellowship from IU, he spent spring 2006 in residence at the Newberry working on a project on the leading Renaissance philologist and critic Lodovico Castelvetro. Scalabrini is currently 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.

This year **Wayne Storey** gave talks at the Circolo Filologico in Padova, the MLA Conference in Washington, D.C., the Foreign Language Conference in Kentucky, and at the conference “Dante in Lunigiana” in Pontremoli, Italy, where he presented his research on the controversial letter of Frate Ilaro. He published three essays: “Following Instructions: Remaking Dante’s *Vita Nova* in the 14th Century” in *Medieval Constructions in Gender and Identity*, “Il codice Pierpont Morgan M. 502 e i suoi rapporti con lo scrittoio padovano di Petrarca” in *La cultura volgare padovana nell’età del Petrarca*, and “Di libello in libro: problemi materiali nella poetica di Monte Andrea e Dante” in *Da Guido Guinizzelli a Dante. Nuove prospettive sulla lirica del Duecento*. He edited the first issue of the journal *Textual Cultures* (1.1 [2006]), published by Indiana University Press, and served as the corresponding editor of *TEXT 17 (From TEXT to Textual Cultures)*, which appeared in March. Storey was also reappointed as director of the Medieval Studies Institute at Indiana University. This spring he launched the course “Medieval Provence” (MEST M200) with an enrollment of more than 40 students.



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### Awards ceremony recognizes student and faculty success

On April 21, the Department of French and Italian held its annual awards ceremony at the Indiana Memorial Union to honor outstanding students, associate instructors, and faculty. Department chair and professor of Italian Andrea Ciccarelli emceed the ceremony, setting the stage for an afternoon of wit, camaraderie, and acclaim. Students, faculty, and staff also had a chance to catch up with each other over punch and cake following the event before rejoining the end-of-semester rush.

Before launching into the award presentations, Ciccarelli recognized the many years of outstanding teaching, service, and research of Professor **Michael Berkvam**, who was set to retire at the end of the semester (see story on page 1). Ciccarelli also had the pleasure of announcing two new graduate student fellowships made possible by recent gifts to the department. The first is the Charlotte F. Gerrard Fellowship, endowed through a generous gift of the late Professor Gerrard's sister, Gilda

Epstein, and the second is the Marvin D. Moody Fellowship, endowed through the kind donation of Marvin Moody, BA'62, MAT '63, PhD'72, MS'81, an alumnus and former faculty member in the department's French linguistics program.

#### Student awards, scholarships

The French faculty recognized their outstanding students through a variety of awards named in honor of former faculty members and alumni. Professors Rosemary Lloyd and Margaret Gray carried on the tradition of donning unique hats to bestow the Grace P. Young Awards, in memory of the late Professor Young's favorite fashion accessory. Lloyd presented the Grace Young Graduate Award to **Caroline Strobbe**, who came to IUB as an exchange student in 2003–04 and stayed to pursue a PhD in French literature. Gray presented the Grace Young Undergraduate Awards, for excellence in French literary studies, to junior **Erica Satterthwaite** and senior **Kathryn Bastin**.

Undergraduate honors also went to senior **Jeffrey Lightfoot**, who received the John K. Hyde Award in recognition of undergraduate achievement in French. Junior **Christopher Trenton Smith** received the Albert and Agnes Kuersteiner Memorial Prize in recognition of excellence in written and spoken French, while senior **Sara Catherine Phillips** received the Charlotte Gerrard Memorial Prize for excellence in French studies.

Senior **Erin Aakhus** was the recipient of the first annual Quentin M. Hope Memorial Award for excellence in French studies, established to honor the memory of Professor Emeritus of French and former department chair Quentin M. Hope. This award was presented by the late Professor Hope's good friend, Professor Michael Berkvam, who shared some fond memories of the 17th-century scholar.

Professor Laurent Dekydtspotter presented the annual award for graduate

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### Surprise reception honors the career of Albert Valdman



Kevin Atkinson

Department chair Andrea Ciccarelli, right, congratulates Professor Emeritus Albert Valdman on his illustrious career.

On Nov. 2, 2005, the Department of French and Italian and the Department of Linguistics co-hosted a surprise reception for Professor Emeritus **Albert Valdman** to celebrate the publication of a Festschrift in his honor. The editors of the Festschrift began the process in the spring of 2001, and by early 2002 a number of Valdman's colleagues and former students had been invited to write articles for the volume. Final revisions to the Festschrift, titled *History, Society, and Variation: In Honor of Albert Valdman*, were accepted for publication by John Benjamins Publishing Co. last fall, at which time the event to announce its publication to Valdman was planned. Festschrift co-editors Deborah Piston-Hatlen, MA'89, associate director of West European studies; Professor Kevin Rottet, PhD'95; and Professor J. Clancy Clements (formerly of the Department of Spanish and Portuguese), attended the event. The fourth co-editor, Thomas A. Klingler, PhD '92, was unable to make the trip from Tulane University.

Co-conspirator Hilde Valdman managed to get her husband to the Indiana Memorial Union for the surprise reception, where current and previous students and faculty gathered to commemorate Valdman's illustrious career. Stuart Davis (chair of the Department of Linguistics), Andrea Ciccarelli (chair of the Department of French and Italian), Emanuel Mickel (professor of French), and Daniel Dinnsen (professor of linguistics) spoke, followed by the culminating presentation by Piston-Hatlen of the introduction and table of contents for the Festschrift.

*History, Society, and Variation: In Honor of Albert Valdman* is expected to be published in September. Copies of the book may be ordered in advance at the John Benjamins Publishing Co. Web site: [www.benjamins.com](http://www.benjamins.com).

# 'Politics and Persuasion' — GSO's colloquium a success

From April 7 to April 9, the Department of French and Italian was abuzz with the energy of the Graduate Student Organization's 15th annual colloquium, titled "Politics and Persuasion." This year's colloquium saw the participation of 26 speakers on 11 panels with topics ranging across all time periods and on subject matter from the cultural biases implicit in dual-language dictionaries to filmic interpretations of fascism.

Three keynote speakers highlighted the event. Michelangelo Zaccarello, associate professor in romance philology at the University of Verona, kicked things off with his pre-colloquium keynote address titled "Burchiello: A Literary Entrepreneur?" in the Hoagy Carmichael Room of Morrison Hall on April 6. The colloquium moved into full gear on April 7 with a keynote lecture by the department's own Professor Michael Berkvam titled "Politics and Literature: the 'Big Lie' and post-World War II France," which was followed by the opening reception. Carl Blyth, professor of French linguistics at the University of Texas at Austin, kept things rolling with his April

8 keynote address titled "Graduate School as Socialization: Identity, Ideology, and Foreign Language Pedagogy," a topic of great interest, particularly to the large numbers of graduate students in attendance.

Conference organizers report that although this year's registration numbers were lower than in previous years, the breadth of schools and disciplines represented by those participants remained wide, ensuring that the colloquium was a success in terms of its mission to provide a forum for diverse dialogue and discussion about current topics in the romance languages. As many as 60 participants gathered for some of the presentations, ensuring lively dialogue and warm exchange of ideas. Participant response to the 2006 colloquium was extremely positive. Claire Renaud, a current graduate student in French linguistics at Indiana University and one of the organizers, reports receiving overwhelmingly positive feedback about the level of discussion that took place at this year's colloquium, as well as the beautiful surroundings of the IU Bloomington campus. Presenter Maria Moreno, a graduate student at Brown University, summed up

the general response to the event by writing "Thanks for a great experience, both on an academic and on a human level. You guys did a great job in keeping things running smoothly and making everyone feel comfortable. I enjoyed the presentations very much and learned a lot from them, as well as from the feedback I got on mine."

IU's Student Activities Office also recognized the value of the colloquium in fostering collegiality and intellectual growth by awarding a grant to the GSO for the second year in a row. The student activities grant, when combined with help from the department's Mary-Margaret Barr Koon Fund, Gertrude Force Weathers Lecture Fund, and a fundraiser held by the GSO earlier in the year, allowed all interested participants to register for and attend the conference without a registration fee. In this way, the GSO was able to meet its goal of providing a venue for the free exchange of intellectual concepts and queries. The GSO looks forward to next year's colloquium where students can once again benefit from meeting many different students and distinguished keynote speakers to exchange thoughts.

## Honors

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students in French linguistics, the Peter Cannings Prize, to two students whom he has mentored in research projects, **Audrey Liljestrand** and **Amanda Edmonds**. Generally only one student is selected for this prize, but the French linguistics faculty were unable to choose between these two excellent young scholars this year.

The Italian faculty also recognized outstanding students through multiple awards. This year's Mario and Katrina Vangeli Undergraduate Award for excellent achievement as a student of Italian went to junior **Klodiana Xha**. Professor Peter Bondanella then presented the Vangeli graduate award to **Torunn Haaland**, his student and teaching assistant in Italian cinema courses who is undertaking dissertation research in this field. Italian PhD student **Beatrice Arduini** was also honored during the ceremony, receiving the Lander MacClintock Award for excellent achievement as a student of Italian.

Juniors **Alexandria Hollet**, **Nolan T. Estes**, and **Maria Aiello** received Carol A. Hofstadter Memorial Scholarships to assist in funding their studies in Bologna through the IU overseas study program in 2006-07. These scholarships were given in memory of Carol Ann Brush Hofstadter, who also

studied in Bologna and was the wife of Professor Douglas Hofstadter (cognitive science). Professor Hofstadter and Professor Emeritus Edoardo Lèbano shared the honor of presenting these awards. The former presented the students with copies

of his book *Le Ton Beau de Marot* as well as award certificates, and the latter happily bestowed upon the two female students a traditional kiss on the cheek.

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Professor Rosemary Lloyd, left, wearing a colorful hat in honor of the late Professor Grace Young, presents the Grace Young award to Caroline Strobbe.

## Alumni notes

**J**oanne Altschuler, BA'71, is an associate professor in the School of Social Work at California State University, Los Angeles. She received an outstanding professor award from CSULA for 2004–05.

**Todd Belf-Becker**, BA'01, of Marblehead, Mass., graduated in May from the Tufts University School of Dental Medicine. He is in practice outside Boston with his father, David B. Becker, BA'72, and grandfather, Norman Becker, DDS'46.

**Desiree M. Bongers**, MA'98, MLS'98, is the director of the Ripon (Wis.) Public Library.

**Angelique N. Cabral**, BA'01, writes, "After graduating from IU, I moved to NYC. I have been here for four years and am acting professionally now. I have a Toyota commercial and a Chase commercial playing. ... I have been seen over the past year on *Guiding Light* and also *All My Children*. I am training for the NYC marathon now and am studying acting under Wynn Handman. Many of my fellow IU students live here too and remain very close friends."

**Catherine S. Drew**, BA/Cert'04, is in the master's program in Russian, East European, and Central Asian studies at Harvard University. She lives in Cambridge, Mass., and can be reached at [csdrew@fas.harvard.edu](mailto:csdrew@fas.harvard.edu).

**Debra M. Hardison**, MA'89, PhD'98, has been promoted to associate professor, with tenure, in the linguistics and languages department at Michigan State University, East Lansing.

**Andrea E. Leap**, BA/BM'94, performed in *Too Many Sopranos* last summer with Light Opera Oklahoma in Tulsa.

**Rebecca Winder Lyne**, BA'90, BS'91, of Chicago, is corporate controller for CareerBuilder.com. Her address is [rcwinder@gmail.com](mailto:rcwinder@gmail.com).

**Jason M. Kivett**, BA'01, is a district supervisor for Marco's Pizza in Indianapolis. An I-Man in tennis, he was a team manager. His address is [jkivett@marcos.com](mailto:jkivett@marcos.com).

**Jennifer Berlinghieri Minicus**, MA'91, of Ridgewood, N.J., and her husband, Richard, have a 5-year-old son.

**John G.W. McCord Jr.**, BA'76, of Chicago, is executive director of the Alliance Française de Chicago, a nonprofit center for education, cultural exchange, and friendship between Americans and French-speaking people from around the world. He speaks French 60 percent of the time at work and is active in the alliance's educational outreach program with the Chicago Public Schools. He loves to cook French meals. McCord can be reached at [jmccord@afchicago.com](mailto:jmccord@afchicago.com).

## Honors

(continued from page 6)

### Teaching awards

The department also honored those whose outstanding classroom performance was from the other side of the desk, presenting its annual teaching awards. PhD students **Riccardo Chiaruttini**, an associate instructor of Italian, and **Christopher Semk**, an associate instructor of French, both received departmental teaching awards.

The faculty recognized the accomplishments of their colleague in French, Assistant Professor **Jérôme Brillaud**, for his excellence in teaching by awarding him the Trustees' Teaching Award, presented by department chair Andrea Ciccarelli. As his was the only name not indicated in the awards ceremony program, Brillaud was duly surprised by this honor.

### Initiations

Professor Lèbano presented the new initiates to the Gamma Kappa Alpha Italian Honor Society: **David Gower**, **Eric J. Houin**, **Meredith Brooks**, **Andrea M. Truitt**, **Lindsay Hermezc**, and **Amanda Truxton**. The current GKA coordinator, Professor Massimo Scalabrini, was on leave at the Newberry Library in Chicago, so the department was pleased that Professor Lèbano, who founded the IU GKA chapter, was able to step in. Later, undergraduate adviser Professor Emanuel Mickel congratulated the spring 2006 Phi Beta Kappa initiates who were majoring in French or Italian: **Kathryn Bastin**, **Anne Sheldrake**, and **Andrea M. Truitt**.

### Outside awards and acknowledgements

Professor Ciccarelli was pleased to announce that Professor **Rosemary Lloyd** won the prestigious Office for Women's Affairs Distinguished Scholar Award and that Professor **Peter Bondanella** was named the Distinguished Faculty Lecturer for 2005–06.

### Save the awards!

Two of the department's long-standing student awards, the John K. Hyde Award for undergraduate students of French and the Peter Cannings Prize for students of French linguistics, have run out of funding. We ask for your help in keeping these awards, and the memory of the faculty members they are named for, alive by sending your donation to the Indiana University Foundation, P.O. Box 500, Bloomington, IN 47402. Please write "John K. Hyde Memorial Fund" or "Peter Cannings Memorial Fund" on the memo line of your check. Thank you!

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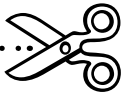
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