

frit

*The countryside near Montepulciano, Italy. Photo by David Smith.*

## A year of changes

EMANUEL MICKEL, CHAIR

**T**he Department of French and Italian welcomes you to its annual newsletter, and we hope that you enjoy the new format begun last year. This has been a year of change in our department, with new faces in new places continuing our core missions of teaching and research.

In January our chair, **Sonya Stephens**, accepted the position of vice-provost for undergraduate education, and I was asked to step in and assume her duties until the summer of 2010. I played this role from 1984–95 and was pleased to be able to support the department again in

this transitional period.

The 2008–09 school year was a bountiful one for us in terms of new faculty members. **Antonio** and **Alicia Vitti** joined the Italian faculty in January 2009 (see page 2).

In French, we were fortunate to hire two new tenure-track faculty members to begin in August 2009. We welcome **Hall Bjornstad** from Oslo, Norway, by way of Princeton in 17th-century studies, and, from Johns Hopkins University, **Nicolas Valazza** in 19th-century literature. These new faculty members were two of only 12 hired in the College of Arts and Sciences.

In addition, two visiting assistant professors joined the department: **Peter Vantine** from the University of Wisconsin in 19th-century studies and **Juliette Dade** from the University of Illinois in 20th-century literature and culture.

We are pleased with these new additions and appreciative of the college's support of our department. The department continues to recruit good graduate students, and our faculty and students are grateful to the donors who make prizes and fellowships available to reward excellence in scholarship and teaching in the fields of French and Italian.

*Membership Matters. This publication is paid for in part by dues-paying members of the IU Alumni Association.*



# Universal themes, Italian style

DANA WHIPPO

**The significance of cinema, in all its facets, inspires Antonio Vitti's research and teaching.**

"Italian films not only reflect, but anticipate changes in society," Vitti says.

Professor Vitti joined the IU Italian faculty in January 2009 after 22 years at Wake Forest University. He was drawn to Indiana's "great, world-renowned reputation," and by the opportunity a move to IU presented to focus his teaching more on his passion: Italian cinema.

Rather than culture shock, this move from a small private university to a larger state school has proven reminiscent of his time as a student at the University of Michigan, where he earned a PhD in 1986.

Vitti relishes the visceral quality of film, which allows you to "see things that you cannot perceive or feel just by reading a book." Orson Welles called film "an open window on the world," Vitti uses this window to show his students the multi-faceted reality of contemporary Italy.

Vitti's interest in the relationship between popular cinema and political power began with the film *La classe operaia va in paradiso* (1971,

directed by Elio Petri). This film was one of the first in Italian cinema to move away from the glorification of the working class to demonstrate instead the alienation of factory work. *La classe* exemplifies the contradiction of films that are at once very critical of the government, yet receive governmental financing; the movies are made but nothing changes.

The film's influence is felt in the more recent hit film *Il Divo*. According to Prof. Vitti, this film from director Paolo Sorrentino represents "a stylistic evolution of the Italian political cinema that began with Elio Petri and Francesco Rosi." *Il Divo* addresses the universal message of how power and politics affect the life of the individual.

Vitti's first professional publication as an IU professor is his fourth monograph *The Films of Gianni Amelio: The Search for a Cinema of Social Conscience True to His Roots* (Pesaro: Metauro Editori, 2009). The book explores how

Amelio's background as the son of a very small village and an underprivileged social class affects the films he makes.

In his films, Amelio addresses a variety of social issues, including immigration, terrorism, and the role of the state in providing a social safety net. They show the decline of society as a universal phenomenon. According to Vitti, the films emphasize the dearth of positive role models for future generations. Gianni Amelio faults society at large for this decline, sparing none the responsibility for societal ills.

Vitti describes how he was first drawn to Amelio's films many years ago.

"Some of Amelio's earlier films were not distributed, and I saw them on TV, late at night, 2 or 3 in the morning. I was surprised by the style and wanted to discover more about him and his films. [They are] visual, the spectator is forced to look for detail; the responsibility is on the audience to find out what happens."

Amelio's films can be frustrating for American students, Vitti has found. They offer no clear-cut answers and force students to reflect upon the meaning of what they have seen.

In one example, Amelio's 1992 film *The Stolen Children* tells of an Italian policeman who is assigned to bring two minors



Antonio Vitti

to an institution. Unlike films of the 1970s and 80s that clearly laid blame at the feet of politicians, this film offers no solutions but instead asks the audience: "Who is responsible?"

This ambiguity is both refreshing and challenging in a time when, in newspapers as well as television, audiences are accustomed to receiving pre-packaged information with black-and-white answers.

Vitti focuses on teaching his students to critically watch the films. "I don't try to convince them or force them to take for granted anything they read or I say," he says, "but to come up with their own understanding." He will employ this philosophy again in Fall 2009 with the seminars "The remaking of postwar Italy through the lenses of cinema" and "Italian cinema in a modernizing society."

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## Department of French and Italian [www.indiana.edu/~frithome](http://www.indiana.edu/~frithome)

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## Department welcomes Alicia Vitti

**A**licia Vitti joined the Department of French and Italian in January 2009 as lecturer in Italian. She holds a doctorate in modern languages from Middlebury College and has many years of experience in teaching Italian language at Wake Forest University, Middlebury College, and the University of North Carolina School of the Arts. Prior to her studies in Italian and French, Vitti had a career as a dancer and a teacher of dance, a career that started in New York and took her to San Francisco, Mexico City, and throughout Europe. At IU, she teaches Italian language classes and will serve as course coordinator for the intermediate level courses in 2009-10. She is still settling into life in Bloomington and is enjoying her teaching and the diversity of the university.



# What next? Beyond the PhD

ISABEL PIEDMONT-SMITH

Over the past 10 years, 47 students have earned PhD degrees from the Department of French and Italian. That's the prize for countless late nights of writing, lit by the glow of the computer monitor, fueled by strong coffee, and inspired by a topic in literature or language that piques one's intellectual curiosity.

Students in FRIT continue to explore a wide range of issues in their dissertations, from Dante Alighieri's *Paradiso* to lexical borrowing among French immigrants. During the 2008–09 academic year, six more students will earn their *philosophiae doctor* and move on to professional positions in academe.

"I really don't know what to expect," says **Jelena Todorovic**, who defends her dissertation in medieval Italian this summer before beginning a tenure-track assistant professorship at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in August. "But I'm very positive about it. I'm looking forward to new challenges."

Todorovic will have very big shoes to fill, as she is taking a faculty line in the UW-Madison Department of French and Italian that belonged to **Christopher Kleinhenz**, BA'64, MA'66, PhD'69, for nearly 40 years. Kleinhenz also served as director of the Medieval Studies Program on and off for 25 years and has received numerous honors for his teaching, research, and service. Those awards include the Chancellor's Award for Distinguished Teaching in 2004, a Newberry Library/NEH Fellowship, and awards from both the American Association of Teachers of Italian and the Association of Departments of Foreign Languages. Kleinhenz is also a fellow of the Medieval Academy of America and former editor of *Dante Studies*. But Todorovic has plenty of time to accumulate her own list of plaudits.

Kleinhenz likes to think of Todorovic's impending arrival in Madison "as both a continuation of the IU 'tradition' in our program and a new beginning for medieval studies in our department."

Indeed, Todorovic already began her involvement with medieval studies as an interdisciplinary area at IUB, where she completed two years as the Medieval Studies Institute's graduate assistant under Director **H. Wayne Storey**.

Storey, who also serves as Todorovic's dissertation director, says, "In addition to her excellent training in Italy, Serbia and the U.S., Jelena will bring to Wisconsin a superb command of ancient and modern languages and linguistic tools."

When applying for positions this

year, Todorovic hoped to find a campus similar to Bloomington: a large research university with many opportunities for collaboration across disciplines.

She was thrilled to receive the offer from Wisconsin after her visit to Madison in February. At that time Lakes Monona and Mendota were frozen and covered with snow, and she saw people ice fishing in little clusters, a scene she called a "winter idyll." She looks forward to teaching again as well, and is especially pleased that in spring 2010 she is slated to teach a seminar on the Italian *Duecento*.

For another PhD graduate, the coming year will not include a traditional winter of snowmen and icicles. French linguist **Bryan Donaldson**, MA'04, PhD'08, is leaving Bloomington for a tenure-track assistant professor position at the University of Texas at Austin. "I'm looking forward to more sun," says Donaldson, who hails from South Dakota and enjoys hiking, biking, and camping.

Donaldson says his diversity of work experience and the breadth of his coursework were key in garnering six interviews during the past recruitment season. While a graduate student, he served as associate instructor of French, research assistant to professors **Barbara Vance** and **Albert Valdman**, and editorial assistant for the journal *Studies in Second Language Acquisition*. He also spent a year as *lecteur* in the English department at the Université de Pau.



Bryan Donaldson

During his final year of work on the dissertation, Donaldson was hired as a visiting lecturer in the French language program at IUB, a position that involves teaching as well as coordinating large language courses and supervising associate instructors.

Donaldson's dissertation, co-directed by professors **Laurent Dekydtspotter** and **Kathleen Bardovi-Harlig** (IU Department of Second Language Studies), focused on how advanced non-native speakers of French structure their conversations in French, and how close they can get to the syntax of native speakers.

"Bryan thinks in interesting ways: He can look outside the box intelligently," says



Jelena Todorovic outside Beck Chapel on the IU campus.

Dekydtspotter. "That's what's needed to make an important contribution in our field."

Like Todorovic, Donaldson will teach a graduate seminar in spring 2010 at his new university, and for him the topic will be history of the French language.

Both Donaldson and Todorovic plan to continue their professional ties with colleagues at IU-Bloomington. Donaldson is finalizing an article for publication with Professor Vance and PhD student **Devan Steiner**, MA'08, on Old French syntactic change, and Todorovic looks forward to attending the IU Medieval Studies Symposium in 2010.

## Other recent PhD Placements

### French literature:

Caroline Beschea-Fache, PhD'07, Davidson College  
Margaret Dempster, PhD'07, Northwestern University  
Désirée Pries PhD'04, University of California-Berkeley  
Joyce Janca-Aji, PhD'04, Coe College

### French linguistics:

Shannon Halicki, PhD'09, West Liberty University  
Tamara Lindner, PhD'08, University of Louisiana  
Ben Hebblethwaite, PhD'07, University of Florida  
Valérie Saugera, PhD'07, University of Connecticut

### Italian:

Fabio Benincasa, PhD'08, Duquesne University  
Beatrice Arduini, PhD'08, Tulane University  
Riccardo Chiaruttini, PhD'08, Gettysburg College  
Tamara Pollack, PhD'08, University of Leeds (UK)



## Faculty updates

**Guillaume Ansart** has published "From Voltaire to Raynal and Diderot's *Histoire des deux Indes*," in *America through European Eyes* (Penn State University Press, 2009); "Condorcet, Social Mathematics, and Women's Rights," in *Eighteenth-Century Studies*; and "Raynal and Diderot's *Histoire des deux Indes* and the American Revolution," in the *Journal of the History of Ideas*. He will spend 2009–10 in Paris working on a critical edition of Condorcet's writings on the American Revolution and on a translation of the same texts.

**Julie Auger** published an article on the French spoken in Québec in a volume that addresses the place that orality should occupy in education in Québec. In April, she was a keynote speaker at the graduate student conference of the Department of French and Italian at the University of Texas, Austin. In May, she delivered a lecture on the place of French in Québec in the 21st century at the University of Chicago.



**Peter Bondanella** currently holds a Mellon Foundation Emeritus Fellowship to study Federico Fellini's dream notebooks. In March 2009, he was inducted into the European Academy of Sciences and the Arts for his scholarship on Italian literature and cinema. Bondanella will publish two books this year: *New Essays on Umberto*

*Eco* (Cambridge University Press, July 2009) and *A History of Italian Cinema* (Continuum International, August 2009).

**Laurent Dekydtspotter** presented work on second language processing at the Second Language Research Forum in Honolulu and at Generative Approaches to Second Language Acquisition in Urbana-Champaign, Ill., with **A. Kate Miller**, MA'08, as well as the Context-Mind workshop in Iowa City with **Claire Renaud**, MA'06. This spring, Dekydtspotter published "Second language epistemology" in *Studies in Second Language Acquisition* and "On the contrastive analysis of features in second language acquisition: Uninterpretable gender on past participles in English-French processing" in *Second Language Research*, with Renaud.

Over the past year, **Margaret Gray** published an essay on Simone de Beauvoir's novel *Les belles images* in *Studies in Twentieth- and Twenty-first Century Literature*. She also greatly enjoyed hiking and camping with her family in the national parks and canyons of the Southwest.

Since his retirement in May of 2000, **Edoardo Lèbano** has continued teaching Italian at the 300 and 400 levels. He has authored, with F.S. Mirri, a new cultural reader *Italia allo specchio*, published in 2007 by Guerra Edizioni. He is still active in several professional associations including the AATI, of which he is executive director. In 2007 and again in 2008



Edoardo Lèbano

he chaired several section meetings at the Annual AATI Conferences in Washington, D.C., and in Taormina, Sicily. In Summer 2009 he is teaching a new graduate course "Mangiare Italiano: Historical, Cultural and Linguistic Aspects" at the *Scuola Italiana* of Middlebury College in Vermont.

In early May **Emanuel Mickel** read a paper at the International Medieval Congress at Kalamazoo, Mich., and had the pleasure of dinner at the home of Professor **Molly Lynde-Recchia**, MA'87, PhD'93, of Western Michigan University. On May 30, Mickel and his wife, Kathleen, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with a dinner-dance in their backyard, which included many friends and colleagues from IU.

Since his last appearance in this newsletter, Professor Emeritus **Samuel Rosenberg** has been honored by the publication of a festschrift (*"Faculty updates" continued on page 7*)



Marvin Moody, PhD'72, producer of the the DLF's index; Kevin Rottet, PhD'95, associate editor; Albert Valdman, senior editor; and Deborah Piston-Hatlen, MA'89, project coordinator.

## Dictionary of Louisiana French completed

**A**fter 10 years of efforts involving many French linguistics graduate students, the *Dictionary of Louisiana French: As Spoken in Cajun, Creole, and American Indian Communities*, now in production at the University Press of Mississippi, will appear at the end of this year.

The dictionary is a 932-page bilingual unidirectional Louisiana French-to-English volume with a total of 18,764 entries (headwords and subentries) and includes an English-to-Louisiana French index with over 21,000 English entries. The *DLF*, as it is called, provides the most thorough documentation of the endangered speech of francophone Louisiana.

Funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities, production of the *DLF* was coordinated by the IU Department of French and Italian and involved scholars from four other universities: the University of Alabama, the University of Louisiana at Lafayette (ULL), Louisiana State University, and Tulane University.

In addition to those in the photograph, two French linguistics alumni served as assistant editors: **Thomas Klingler**, MA'86, MA'88, PhD'92, chair of the Tulane French Department, and **Tamara Lindner**, MA'03, PhD'08, assistant professor of French at ULL. Another assistant editor, **Barry Ancelet**, MA'77, distinguished professor of French at ULL, earned his master's degree in folklore at IU and served as a French associate instructor in the department. Ancelet is one of the leading activists for the maintenance and revalorization of French in Louisiana.

In the words of evaluators: "Linguists will find [in the *DLF*] invaluable data to document their works on issues like language contact, language evolution, history of spoken French, origins of Creole, etc. ... [it] will provide language historians with plenty of new data that will shed light on how French was used among the first settlers.... If there is to be a revival of Louisiana French, [the *DLF*] will play an important role."

# Department honors graduate student instructors

DANA WHIPPO

*“Every student is unique, and there is always something [in your class] that can relate to them,”*

says Associate Instructor **Audrey Dobrenn**. “As a teacher, you just have to find it. Then all of a sudden, the class becomes interesting.” Dobrenn’s ideas on teaching paid off this April, as she was honored as one of three AI Teaching Award winners at the department’s annual ceremony. Fellow recipients were **Heather Mulhern**, from the Italian program, and **Amandine Lorente-Lapole**, who, along with Dobrenn, teaches in the French program.

All of our award winners this year demonstrated innovation and passion in their approach to students.

Mulhern uses a pedagogy that is both experimental and unique: the TPRS (Teaching Proficiency through Reading and Storytelling) framework “makes students central to creating the contexts of their language learning.” Mulhern says that her “job as a teacher is to show students how to be

successful and make them responsible for their own learning.” She uses humor to create a personalized environment, encouraging her students to “leave their inhibitions at the door and open the right side of their brains for optimal language acquisition.”

“There is just no aspect of this job, no challenge, last-minute change or potential difficulty that she hasn’t faced with curiosity, analytical skills and the utmost professionalism,” **Colleen Ryan-Scheutz**, PhD’97, director of Italian language instruction, says of Mulhern.

Dobrenn’s teaching objective is not only to help the students learn to speak French, but to encourage her students to explore the French culture as well, through news clips, music, movies, and literature. She uses this approach to develop both grammar and vocabulary, and describes it as a way to attain “the most natural use of the language that I have found so far.” **Kelly Sax**, PhD’03, director of French language instruction, calls Dobrenn “truly innovative” as she “helps students bridge the gap between the classroom and ‘real world’

language and culture.”

As for Lorente-Lapole, Sax praises her classroom presentations as “visually rich.” Lorente-Lapole maximizes her use of technology and “explodes the language classroom by taking students beyond its walls, exposing them to culturally and linguistically rich songs or video excerpts.” Sax describes her as “a leader among her peers” for her work developing and sharing lessons with her colleagues.

Lorente-Lapole shares this trait with her fellow award winners; both Mulhern and Dobrenn have participated in conferences and made presentations to share their teaching strategies.

Associate Instructor  
Heather Mulhern tells  
students to “leave their  
inhibitions at the door.”



What's new  
with you?

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## 1970s

**Robert J. Cirillo**, BA'71, MA/MBA'75, writes, "Until 2004 I was working in Amsterdam as European vice president of finance for an American corporation. I have now retired from that position and am working on a PhD in linguistics at the University of Amsterdam." A classical guitarist in his spare time, Cirillo lives in Amsterdam.

**Michael L. McCafferty**, BA'71, MA'85, is an Algonquian and Uto-Aztecan linguist who teaches in the department of Second Language Studies at IU Bloomington. His book, *Native American Place-Names of Indiana*, a detailed linguistic history of cities, counties, lakes and other Indiana place names, has been published by the University of Illinois Press. McCafferty lives in Unionville, Ind.

**Florence Binford Kichler**, BA'72, MBA'85, founder, publisher, and president of Indianapolis-based Patria Press, has been selected by *Book Business Magazine* as one of the top 50 women in book publishing. Patria Press, which was founded in 2000, publishes the award-winning Young Patriots Series of fiction for children ages 8–12. Kichler, of India-

napolis, also serves as president of the 3,500-member Independent Book Publishers Association and is a member of the IU Kelley School of Business Women's Alumni MBA Advisory Board.

**Suzanne E. Rogan**, BA'74, is a nurse clinician in the recovery room of the University of Wisconsin Hospital in Madison, Wis. She lives in Middleton, Wis.

**Beban Sammy Chumbow**, PhD'75, is a professor of linguistics at the University of Yaoundé I, Cameroon, where an international symposium will be held to honor him on the occasion of his 65th birthday, April 7–10, 2010. The theme of the symposium is *Languages of Education in Africa: Issues, Challenges and Perspectives*. For more information, please email [bscsymposium@yahoo.com](mailto:bscsymposium@yahoo.com).

In October, **R. William Jonas Jr.**, BA'78, JD'81, was inducted as president of the Indiana State Bar Association. He is a partner in the South Bend law firm Hammerschmidt, Amaral & Jonas. As bar president, he serves as the primary spokesman for the more than 12,000 Indiana lawyers who belong to the ISBA, and he presides over the association's board of governors. His wife, Kathleen (Harsh), BA'78, MLiBSt'97, is executive director of

the St. Joseph Valley branch of the Indiana Association of Plumbing-Heating-Cooling Contractors, based in Mishawaka, Ind. The couple lives in South Bend.

**Stephen A. Wildfeuer**, BA'78, is the director of the Arts Institute Study Abroad Consortium in Pittsburgh, Pa., where he lives.

## 1990s

**Lisa Paulin**, BA'91, MA'93, completed her PhD in the School of Journalism and Mass Communication at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill in 2007, and is an assistant professor of mass communication at North Carolina Central University in Durham, where she lives.

**Joy M. Brott**, MA'93, recently completed an executive MBA degree at Colorado Technical University. She writes, "[I have] spent the last 15 years working in IT, most recently for Forsythe Solutions Group in Chicago, managing Forsythe's West Coast IBM UNIX business as well as its national IBM software practice. My husband, Maj. Merv Brott, BS'97, and I reside wherever the U.S. Army sends us — most recently in the Houston area for me and Iraq for Merv. [We] will be locating to the Fort Leavenworth, Kan., area later this summer. [I] still maintain my

## From French major to MD (and other career paths)

DANA WHIPPO

**What do you do with a French major?** Three of our recent undergraduates share their experiences in the department, and how they are incorporating their love of language into the fields of rural medicine, international education exchange, and brain and cognitive science.

**Melissa Troyer**, BA/BS'08, who graduated with highest honors in French and cognitive science, is currently in graduate school at MIT studying the "cognitive mechanisms involved in language processing" in the school's Department of Brain and Cognitive Sciences. Troyer's experience studying French at IU encouraged her to "be a more open-minded thinker, taking multiple perspectives when reading literature and also when writing about it." She is particularly interested in French linguistics and how humans build language skills in general. Her time studying abroad in Aix-en-Provence enhanced her French proficiency, and allowed her to experience being a member of another culture, which is especially valuable for someone studying cognition.

A more recent graduate, **Teresa Bellono**, BA'09, will use her degree in French and international studies to pursue further study in international exchange education at American University (Washington, D.C.). Bellono's higher degree will focus on direction of international student exchange programs. This path allows her to combine her passions for language and travel in a constructive and challenging career. Bellono participated in the IU study abroad program in Aix-en-Provence in

2007–08. She says that her experience learning both French and Italian (her minor) has enriched her "personal and academic journeys by looking to the past, present, and future of two beautiful languages and cultures."

**Tristin Allen**, BA'09, who double-majored in French and Biology, is mapping a more unusual future. She begins medical school this fall at Indiana and will focus on rural health. Her undergraduate courses in French allowed her to realize the extent of her passion for interacting with people. This interest has guided her decision to become a primary care physician rather than following another medical specialization. This path will allow her to spend more time directly interacting with patients. Allen says her French courses provided her the opportunity to develop skills different from those honed in her science courses. She squeezed three study abroad programs into her four years at IUB: in Québec, Rennes (France), and Costa Rica. She says her time abroad improved both her communication skills and her ability to relate to people from many walks of life.

The divergent paths of these recent graduates show that coursework in foreign language, literature, and culture can enhance a student's overall academic development by building skills that are widely applicable. All three students remarked on positive experiences in the Department of French and Italian, including memorable professors who engaged in interactions outside of the classroom as well as in class, and who provide ongoing mentoring.

"I am so thankful for the opportunities that the French department has given me to grow as a student and a person," says Allen, "and will continue to look back on my time spent in Ballantine Hall as some of the best of my life."



Teresa Bellono



French skills and try to travel to France as frequently as possible.”

**Catherine Lerat Schmitz**, MA'97, PhD'03, is a professor of French at Wofford College in Spartanburg, S.C., where she lives with her husband, Timothy, MA'93, PhD'00. The couple welcomed daughter Juliette Margot Andrea in November.

## 2000s

**Angelique N. Cabral**, BA'01, is a professional actress in the Los Angeles area. She moved to L.A. with her boyfriend, Jason, who owns FEED, a granola company. She lives in Santa Monica, Calif.

**Christophe Chaguinian**, PhD'03, is an assistant professor of French in the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures at the University of North Texas in Denton, Texas.

**Jean M. Candido**, MA'06, is completing certification in fashion technology from the Moore College of Art and Design in Philadelphia. She writes, “In addition to being a part-time student, I also work for TV GUIDE/Macrovision as a French writer/editor, and I am interning for a recognized Philadelphia designer, Paula Hian, who is taking France by storm.” Candido lives in Wallingford, Pa.

## Faculty updates

(continued from page 4)

edited by **Karen Fresco**, PhD'83, and Wendy Pfeffer, which included writings by Fresco and 25 other specialists in French medieval studies. “*Chançon legiere a chanter*”: *Essays on Old French Literature in Honor of Samuel N. Rosenberg* was published in 2007. With **Christopher Callahan**, PhD'85, **Jesse Hurlbut**, PhD'90, and others, he has enjoyed making a CD recording of the 15th-century *Farce de Maistre Pathelin*. Rosenberg still serves as editor of *Encomia*.



Samuel Rosenberg

**Kevin Rottet** completed work on the *Dictionary of Louisiana French*, which is in press (see page 4). He also continues to work on Welsh and Breton, and spent a week this summer at a Breton language immersion camp in Châteaulin, Brittany.

**Kelly Sax** spent summers 2008 and 2009 in Québec City, directing the CIC summer study abroad program at Laval University. Her highlight of the 2008 program was a

free outdoor Paul McCartney concert as part of the celebration of the 400th anniversary of the founding of Québec.

While continuing to serve as undergraduate advisor, in the past year **Massimo Scalabrini** attended conferences in the United States and Canada. The conferences included the South Atlantic Modern Language Association 16th Century Society and Conference; the Renaissance Society of America; and “Plurilinguismo Letterario: an International Conference” organized by the University of Toronto. He published two essays, one titled “Esempi di onomastica comica tra Boccaccio e Ariosto” (*Strumenti critici*), the other “Pastoral Postures: Some Renaissance Versions of Pastoral” (*Bibliothèque d'Humanisme et Renaissance*), with Davide Stimilli. On April 3, he hosted at IU the first symposium on Italian poet Teofilo Folengo ever to be held in North America.

**Barbara Vance**, along with **Bryan Donaldson**, MA'04, PhD'08, and **Devan Steiner**, MA'08, presented a joint paper at the 39th annual Linguistic Symposium on Romance Languages in Tucson, Ariz., in March. The paper, “V2 Loss in Old French and Old Occitan: the role of fronted subordinate clauses,” represents the trio's ongoing work comparing the loss of the verb-second word order requirement in the history of French and Occitan.



Above: Prof. Massimo Scalabrini presents the Vangeli Graduate Award to Federico Pacchioni. Below: Hofstadter Scholarship winners Clare Rosenbalm and Robert Smith.



## Annual departmental awards and honors 2009

### Grace P. Young Awards

Audrey Dobrenn, MA'09  
Frédérique Loiseau  
Tristin Allen, BA'09  
Paula Dias, BA'09  
Julie Rowe, BA'09

### Mario & Katrina Vangeli Awards

Lindsay Hermecz, BA'09  
Federico Pacchioni, MA'07

### Lander MacClintock Memorial Award

Teresa Bellono, BA'09

### John K. Hyde Award

Joseph Zettel, BA'09

### Quentin M. Hope Memorial Award

Brittany Woedl, BA'09

### Mary V. Lèbano Memorial Award

Kenna Daniel, BA'09

### Albert and Agnes Kuersteiner Memorial Prize

Katelyn Colvin

### Peter Cannings Memorial Prize

Claire Renaud, MA'06

### Charlotte F. Gerrard Memorial Prize

Graham Erwin, BA'09

### Associate Instructor Awards

Audrey Dobrenn, MA'09  
Amandine Lorente Lapole, MA'08  
Heather Mulhern, MA'09

### Trustees Teaching Award

Prof. Colleen Ryan-Scheutz, PhD'97

### Carol Ann Brush Hofstadter Memorial Scholarships

Clare Rosenbalm  
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### Gamma Kappa Alpha Italian Honor Society

Anna Cox, BA'09  
Charlotte Kies  
Michelle Miles  
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## Québec: Je me souviens

ISABEL PIEDMONT-SMITH

**“Q**u'est-ce que c'est être québécois?” Senior Lecturer **Kelly Sax** encourages students on the CIC Summer Program at Laval University in Québec to ask this question of residents they encounter. Most everyone in the city has an answer, and the Québécois don't find the question strange. That's the wonderful experience students have on the program, says Sax, PhD'03. “They discover the distinctness of Québec, the distinct cultural identity that the Québécois feel.”

In addition to their immersion into Québec's francophone society as residents for five weeks, students on the program participate in cultural excursions that deepen their understanding of our francophone neighbors.

A visit to a *cabane à sucre* includes a traditional Québécois dinner of beef pot pie, baked beans, *cretons* (fatty paté), and scrambled eggs, all covered in maple syrup. Whale watching, horseback riding, and rafting trips allow students to savor the natural treasures of the region, and an “Introduction to Québec” course organized by Sax as resident director introduces students to the rich history of the province.

The Committee on Institutional Cooperation's Québec Program is open to students from all CIC universities, which include all schools in the Big Ten athletic conference plus the University of Chicago. The resident director position, with a three-year term, usually rotates among the schools. But for the past two terms, an IU Bloomington faculty member has served as director, first Professor Julie Auger and then Kelly Sax. French graduate students from the department have also served as assistants on the program in recent years, including **Brian Barnett**, MA'05, **Jordi Teillard**, MA'06, and **Erin Sipe**, MA'09.

Québec celebrated its 400th anniversary in 2008, and the celebrations will continue for a few years. A highlight of the students' 2008 experience was a free open-air concert by Paul McCartney on the *Plaines d'Abraham*, attended by over 200,000 fans of all ages. Having a headliner from Britain ruffled the feathers of some Québec sovereignty activists, but on the ground it was “an extraordinary once-in-a-lifetime musical event,” said Sax.

The cultural life on Québec's streets, always active in the summer, was heightened during the celebrations last year, and enhanced by Robert Lapage's gigantic *Moulin à images*, a light and sound projection depicting the history of the region. This new evening attraction will continue through summer 2012.

Through all this, do the students speak French? Starting at various levels of proficiency, students take French classes at the Université de Laval, and they may choose to live in dorms or with host families. Many do try to speak French all the time, which is more necessary with host parents. “Linguistically,” says Sax, “they get what they put into it.”



BRIAN BARNETT

Above: Château Frontenac. Below: Ben Campbell (IU) and Megan Cody (Mercyhurst College) on a kayaking expedition in summer 2008.



SUBMITTED BY MEGAN CODY



BRIAN BARNETT

At left, the results of a student's strawberry picking on the Île d'Orleans, the panorama pictured below. At right, Québec's national motto appears in stained glass in the parliament building: *Je me souviens*.



BRIAN BARNETT



BRIAN BARNETT