



THE DUOMO IN ORVIETO, UMBRIA. PHOTO BY DAVID SMITH.

Faculty milestones, student successes, and a fond farewell

EMANUEL MICKEL

The Department of French and Italian had another productive year in 2010-11. We are pleased with the successful tenure and promotion of **Oana Panaité**, who had her book, *Des littératures-mondes de langue française*, accepted for publication this fall by Rodopi Press. We also congratulate **Eric MacPhail** on the publication of his book *The Sophistic Renaissance* with Librairie Droz. I am happy to report that **Kelly Sax**, our Director of French Language Instruction, has been selected to serve as faculty director for the overseas program in Aix-en-Provence for the 2011-12 academic year.

We were quite active in hiring this past year, and we are pleased to welcome **Brett Bowles** as Associate Professor of twentieth-century French literature with an emphasis on French film. Professor Bowles is the author of *Marcel Pagnol*

(2011, Manchester University Press) and editor of the forthcoming *Cinema, Society, and Politics in France and Germany, 1930-1945* (Berghahn Books). We were also able to hire in a visiting position **Marc D. Schachter**, a scholar of French Renaissance studies who has published two books and a number of articles.

Professor **Emmanuel Bouju** from the Université de Rennes 2 in France spent a successful spring semester as a senior visiting professor in our department. He taught two courses and added to the intellectual climate of the department. In the coming year we will host **Hélène Merlin-Kajman** from the Université de Paris 3 (Nouvelle Sorbonne), who will teach two courses in the second eight weeks of the spring semester.

Our graduating PhDs again did well in finding

positions in the academic community. **Olga Amarie** (PhD'11) was hired to a tenure-track position at Georgia State University, and **Amanda (Kate) Miller** (PhD'11) received a tenure-track job at IUPUI. We also bid farewell this summer to two visiting assistant professors who have been with us for two years. **Peter Vantine** (PhD, Wisconsin) has obtained a tenure-track position at St. Michael's College in Vermont, and **Juliette Dade** (PhD, Illinois) will be leaving for a position at Bucknell University in Pennsylvania.

This will be my last newsletter contribution as chairman of the Department, as my term has now ended. My colleague in Italian, Professor **Andrea Ciccarelli**, has taken the reigns as of July 1, 2011. I have enjoyed serving the Department these last few years and hope to maintain the alumni connections I have made. ♥

Young scholar supports a “Copernican revolution”

ISABEL PIEDMONT-SMITH

On March 16, 2007, there appeared in *Le Monde des livres*, the literary section of the leading French newspaper, a manifesto signed by 44 French language authors entitled “Pour une ‘littérature-monde’ en français.” In Fall 2011, Oana Panaïté, who recently received tenure and promotion to Associate Professor in the Department of French and Italian, will publish *Des littératures-mondes de langue française*. The revolutionary goal of both publications is to put literature written in French by writers living outside of France on the same par with literature written by French authors.

The authors of the 2007 manifesto dared to suggest that the universe of French language literature no longer revolved around France. This “Copernican revolution” was evidenced by the fact that, the previous fall, five major literary awards were given to French-language writers from outside of France: the Goncourt, the Grand Prix du roman de l’Académie française, the Renaudot, the Femina, and the Goncourt for youth literature. French literature written by authors outside the Hexagon of France should not be studied merely for its ethnographic or colonial perspective, the writers asserted, but rather be considered on an equal footing with literature written in France.

Oana Panaïté, who came to IU in 2004, also believes the separation between “francophone” and “French” literature is artificial, and she argues eloquently in her upcoming

book that all literature written in French follows in the tradition of Montaigne, Voltaire, and Balzac. The arc of French literature has simply expanded in the last century to include literature written in various countries and regions outside France. Her forthcoming book, to be published in French by the distinguished press Rodopi, presents an expansive look at contemporary French literature from 1980 to 2005, identifying themes and trends in works by authors from France, Africa, the Caribbean, Canada, and East Asia.

Panaïté, who received PhDs from the Sorbonne (2004) and from Johns Hopkins University (2005), also explores in her research the bond between language, literature, and the nation. Although most francophone authors make a conscious decision to write in French, the decision does not come without criticism in some cases. Writers have been accused of abandoning their indigenous language in order to pursue personal aggrandizement through adopting the colonialists’ mode of expression.

“To various degrees,” says Panaïté, “Francophone authors all struggle with their own multilingualism and split identity. For them, home is neither in French nor in the native language.” But many have successfully bridged the gap and surpassed cultural and physical borders. For instance, Maryse Condé was born in Guadeloupe, educated in France, lived 10 years in Africa, and then taught in England and the US (lastly at Columbia). This year she was awarded one of the high-



est civilian honors bestowed by the French government, the Grand officier de l’Ordre national du Mérite. Alain Mabanckou, who won the Prix Renaudot in 2006, was born in the Democratic Republic of Congo, studied in France, is published in France, and is currently living and teaching in California (UCLA). He was a guest speaker at IU-Bloomington in 2007.

Although of equal quality, the writings of francophone authors are distinguished from those written by French authors in that the characters are generally outsiders in some

(“Revolution,” continued on page 4)

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Conference participation inspires graduate students

VALERIE PUIATTI

During the 2010-2011 academic year, FRIT graduate students participated in various conferences throughout the United States and Europe. Several were eager to share how they felt conference participation contributes to their professional development. Overall, they found networking, obtaining feedback on their work, and gaining fresh perspectives to be among the greatest benefits of attending an academic conference. In particular, they enjoyed the comfortable space created for the exchange of ideas. The Department provided funds for some of these trips; \$3,650 was awarded in graduate student travel grants this year.

In her first non-graduate conference, Erin Edgington (MA'10) was able to meet experts in her field of contemporary French and Francophone literature. Marie-Line Brunet (MA'09), a Ph.D. candidate in French Literature, saw conference participation as a way “to develop and extend on a secondary research interest.” For French Linguistics Ph.D. candidate Amandine Lorente Lapole (MA'08), participating in the 11th *Generative Approaches to Second Language Acquisition* conference was “extremely valuable” for her as a young researcher: “First, it helped me get used to presenting and defending my work to other scholars. Second, it is amazing how much you can learn from attending others’ talks and engaging with people working on similar questions. This involvement has helped me develop my ideas and work.”

The conference presentation itself may be added to one’s curriculum vitae, and conference participation may lead to publication of a student’s paper. Marianna Orsi attended the Northeast MLA convention in New Brunswick, New Jersey in April where she gave a paper on the novel *Minchia di Re* by the Italian writer and journalist Giacomo Pilati and the film *Viola di Mare* by Donatella Maiorca. Orsi’s paper, “La Viola Di Mare: Una Storia di Amore tra Donne

(“Conferences,” continued on page 7)

A salute to our donors

Our department continues to rank among the best in the nation

due not only to our excellent faculty and the context of a first-rate university, but also because we provide a rich program of extracurricular activities for our students, as well as funding to support outstanding students pursuing graduate study. Thanks to generous donations from alumni and friends, we are also able to reward both undergraduate and graduate students with academic prizes each year, as well as recognize the best Associate Instructors in French and Italian.

We are very grateful to you, our alumni and donors, for your support of our programs. The IU Foundation manages several accounts to benefit the Department. The French and Italian Enrichment Fund supports our French Club, Circolo Italiano, and Associate Instructor awards. The Albert Valdman Graduate Student Research and Travel Fund supports students in French linguistics, as does the Marvin D. Moody Fellowship Fund. Smaller funds such as the

Grace P. Young Fund and the Lander MacClintock Fund support our annual student academic awards.

All donations are important, but we would like to honor in particular our donors who exceeded certain milestone levels of giving in 2010-11. For our giving levels, we have borrowed from the Cannes Film Festival, where films from France, Italy, and throughout the world are honored. Thank you very much for your generous contributions!

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GIOVANNI DALL'ORTO

Exploring the Loire Valley by boat and bike

PETER VINT (BA'69)

A great way to recover fluency in French is to take a bike trip in France. I majored in French at IU during the height of the Vietnam War, and in lieu of protesting I was often in the IMU Student Union reading Molière plays or penning poetry in French. That sunny interlude ended when I graduated in 1969 and was immediately drafted into the army.

The French paid off (along with a linguistics course at IU), and I obtained the maximum score on the defense language aptitude test and qualified for language school. That not surprisingly turned out to be Vietnamese language school, and then in 1970 I was assigned as a linguist to the First Cavalry Division near the Cambodian border. Even so, the French came in handy, as much of the populace of this former French colony spoke French. I also served as an interpreter between Vietnamese and Cambodian generals, whose only common language was French. After that I only used French from time to time for travel in Francophone countries around the world.

In 2009, I decided to simultaneously improve my French and tour France by bicycle, and found a one-week bike/barge trip along the Loire Valley. The basic premise was to sleep on a small ship that would wander around the Loire River canal

system, then ride with a group of 15-20 fellow tourists with a leader and 21-speed hybrid bikes with panniers that came with the barge. The boat cabins were tiny, with two bunks per room, each with a shower/toilet. The ship also had a dining room that sat everyone comfortably and a deck area for lounging après-ride, although we were always docked beside a picturesque village and could set out chairs along the shore or

wander into town.

Before the trip, I got out my old French tapes to review for a year while commuting to work in the Washington, DC area. Especially useful was "Learn in Your Car-French," which covers everything you need to know to travel using French. It was also helpful to watch French news on cable TV. After a year of review, I was ready to tackle France back at the fluent level.

("Loire" continued on page 5)



After an absence of eight years, **Julie Auger** finally had a chance to return to Picardie last September. She was excited to be able to meet new Picardisants, to see old friends, and to talk to them about her recent research. She was especially pleased to see again Léopold Devismes, who is still living in his house at the age of 97 and who is still as passionate about Picard as ever.

Hall Bjornstad's book *Créature sans créateur: Pour une anthropologie baroque dans les "Pensées" de Pascal* came out earlier this year (with Presses de l'Université Laval, Québec). This summer he co-organized a workshop called "From Exemplarity to Probability: Thresholds of Modernity, Early and Late" at the Sorbonne in Paris, and looks forward to bringing back the intellectual excitement to his teaching in the fall.

Peter Bondanella delivered the keynote address, "Fellini and Fantasy," to an international conference entitled "Fellini Between Life and Fantasy" at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem in April. He was also asked to contribute an autobiographical essay, "My Path to Italian Cinema," to the 2011 issue of *The Italianist* (Vol. 31), in which he recounts how he played a pioneering role in establishing film studies within Italian programs in America.

During the past year, **Margaret Gray** greatly enjoyed sharing 20th/21st-century literature panels at conferences in London, UK, with PhD candidate Marie-Line Brunet (MA'09), and in San Francisco with colleague Oana Panaïté. PhD candidate Michèle Schaal (MA'04) assisted in representing FRIT at both conferences, while in San Francisco, the IU contingent included former visiting professor Colin Davis (University of London, Royal Holloway), assistant visiting professor Juliette Dade, and PhD student Annie Shailer (MA'09).

Eileen Julien was one of four invited keynote speakers at the Workshop on Contemporary Debates at Makerere University, Uganda, in June 2011. This workshop explored questions such as imported vs. indigenous genres, modernity vs. tradition, the impact of geographical and institutional locations, and gender in the study of modern literature and culture. During the workshop Julien gave an interview regarding New Orleans gumbo and its relation to the city's identity and history, which was very well received. She is currently in Dakar, researching modernity in literature and the arts in Senegal.

Emanuel Mickel enjoyed his visit to the MLA convention in Los Angeles in January. Departmental hiring obligations limited his time, but he did enjoy seeing current graduate students and some from the recent past (Catherine Perry, MA'92 and Kristin Juel, PhD'02). In May Mickel read a paper at a session honoring Alice Colby Hall at the 46th International Congress of Medievalists in Kalamazoo, MI, where he reconnected with many former graduate students including Molly Lynde Recchia (PhD'93), Lisa Bansen Harp (PhD'98), Jesse Hurlbutt (PhD'90), Bob Clark (PhD'92), and Janina Traxler (PhD'86). In May,



Associate Professor Margot Gray participated in the FRIT team for the annual Jill Behrman memorial 5K run in October 2010. From left: Undergraduate Jacob Ladyga; graduate students Krista Williams and Michael Dow; Gray, her son Joseph, and her husband Oscar Kenshur.

the French government promoted Mickel from *chevalier* to *officier* in the Académie des Palmes Académiques. He says "I am not sure that a medievalist wishes to lose the designation of chevalier, but such is the curse of age!"

Samuel Rosenberg is pleased to be in e-mail contact with students of recent years no less than long ago, exploring intricacies of Old French with Christophe Chaguinian (PhD'03) and discussing publications with Norris Lacy (PhD'67). He enjoyed, too, seeing a few of our younger medievalists at the 2011 congress on medieval studies in Kalamazoo, where he participated in a panel on the performance of early song.

Massimo Scalabrini is still serving as Director of the Renaissance Studies Program and as Director of Undergraduate Studies in Italian. In the past year he has attended conferences in Italy, Canada and the United States. Two of his essays were published in 2010: "Comicità e vanto nella letteratura rustica e nenciale" (*Giornale storico della letteratura italiana* CLXXXVIII) and "Paolo Cherchi o della dissimulazione del sapere" (an 'Introductory Note' to an essay in *Italice* 87/2). He is currently editing a collection of essays devoted to Teofilo Folengo and the macaronic tradition titled *Folengo in America* to be published in 2011 by Longo Editore. In the summer of 2010 he taught in the Middlebury College Language Schools.

The Société des Études Romantiques et Dix-neuviémistes, based in France, nominated **Nicolas Valazza** to be its US correspondent. This year, Valazza published a French edition of the novel *Venus in Furs* by the Austrian writer Leopold von Sacher-Masoch, and he was invited to give a talk on Mrs. Chinnery's portrait by Élisabeth Vigée-Lebrun in the "Museum studies" seminar at the IU Art Museum.

The Dictionary of Louisiana French As Spoken in Cajun, Creole and American Indian Communities, edited by **Albert Valdman, Kevin Rottet**, and colleagues, won the 2011 Book of the Year Award from the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities.

("Revolution" continued from page 2)

way. There is a strong sense, says Panaïté, of being "the other." Also, travel is usually described as being difficult, and border crossings are far from the effortless glide of a TGV from Paris to Brussels.

Panaïté explores the place of Francophone literature in the history of French literature and in the post-colonial social context in the courses she teaches at IU. This past spring, she taught a graduate seminar entitled "The Colonial Fortune: Literature, Ideology, and Education at the turn of the 20th century," in which students from the US, France, Haiti, and Senegal offered various perspectives on the topics discussed. Starting with the 19th century French writings on the "civilizing mission" of France in the colonies, students explored the effects of colonialism on French society as well as on the colonies in Africa, East Asia, and the Caribbean. She also asked students to select their own related texts and share them with the class, which

enriched the discussion significantly.

The course helped Panaïté formulate her next research project, which examines literary works from the modern cannon (from Proust to the present day) and how they were influenced by the colonial context. "For 70 years France was both a republic and a colonial power," says Panaïté. "I am interested in exploring how this juxtaposition of democratic and undemocratic political structures was reflected in literature."

When asked which contemporary French author is her personal favorite, Panaïté hesitates but eventually names Marie N'Diaye, who won the Prix Goncourt in 2009 for her novel *Trois femmes puissantes*. N'Diaye's father is from Senegal and her mother is French, so although she grew up and lives in France, her writing may be considered a bridge between French and Francophone literature. "Her

Annual departmental awards

Grace P. Young Graduate Awards

Erin Edgington (MA'10)
Benjamin Niehaus (MA'11)
Olga Scrivner (MA'09)

Grace P. Young Undergraduate Awards

Katelyn Colvin
Stephen Greist (BA'11)
Melissa Thompson (BA'11)

Mario & Katrina Vangeli Undergraduate Award

Robert Bradley Smith (BA'11)

Mario & Katrina Vangeli Graduate Award

Giulia Benghi

Lander MacClintock Memorial Award

Amandine Lorente Lapole (MA'08)

John K. Hyde Award

Sarah Chestnut (BA'11)

Quentin M. Hope Memorial Award

Nicole Burkholder (BA'11)

Mary V. Lèbano Memorial Award

Nicolas Perfetti (BA'11)

Albert and Agnes Kuersteiner Memorial Prize

Maria B. Walker

Peter Cannings Memorial Prize for French linguistics

Ryan Hendrickson (MA'10)

Charlotte F. Gerrard Memorial Prize

Lee William McHenry

Italian Associate Instructor Awards

Luisa Garrido Baez (MA'10)
Andrea Polegato (MA'07)

French Associate Instructor Awards

Jennifer Betters (MA'10)
Ryan Hendrickson (MA'10)

Trustees Teaching Award

Professor Nicolas Valazza

Carol Ann Brush Hofstadter Memorial Scholarships for study in Bologna

Nicolas Perrino
Sabrina Russello

Gamma Kappa Alpha Italian Honor Society

Eva DeBoni (BA'11)
Michael Lockard (BA'11)
Samuel J. Park
Chaise Yarling

Many thanks to our donors, who make these awards possible!



Congratulations to our undergraduate student award winners! Front row: Katelyn Colvin, Maria Walker, Melissa Thompson, Sarah Chestnut, and Nicole Burkholder. Back row: Samuel Park, Nicolas Perfetti, Lee William McHenry, Chaise Yarling, Nicolas Perrino, and Michael Lockard.

style is at the same time very rich and almost exuberant but also terse in the way it tells the story," says Panaïté. "Generally you find a very realistic background, but something strange, alienating, happens to the main character."

As Panaïté submits the final edits to her first book manuscript, she is grateful to the Department and the University for supporting her tenure. Now that her position is secure she can move forward with confidence in her career, breaking new ground in contemporary literary analysis in her examination of 20th and 21st century French-language literature as a whole, regardless of the author's origin. ♥

Congratulations Erin Patrick (BA'98)!

Ms. Patrick has been chosen by the College of Arts & Sciences Alumni Association for the 2011 Outstanding Young Alumni Award. She is head of the Fuel and Firewood Initiative of the Women's Refugee Commission, a non-profit organization dedicated to helping improve the lives and protect the rights of women, children, and young people who are refugees.

("Loire" continued from page 3)

The tour was great. The captain and crew were Dutch, and were always helpful and friendly. The bike tour leader, who drove a school bus in Holland the rest of the year, was also Dutch. They were all fluent in English and had some French, so the official lingua franca for the tourists was English. The tourists included Australians who spoke only English, a French woman who also spoke English, several Germans who could speak English and some French, a Dutchman who spoke English, and some Italians who spoke only Italian. I was the only American, but since I also speak German and Italian, I had no trouble communicating with everyone. The ages of the group ranged from 12 to 70, but everyone was able to keep up with the 10 mph pace nearly always on flat, asphalt terrain, except for some steep climbs into medieval hill towns.

They served a great continental breakfast on the boat, part of which we wrapped up for a take-along lunch. Each morning after breakfast, we would saddle up our bikes and ride about 30 miles through the countryside, to meet the boat again at around 5:00 pm at its new location, a tiny French village along the Loire. The tour leader would ride with us along back roads to interesting sites such as medieval castles, ancient hilltop villages, wineries, open-air markets, and the like. In towns we would stop at the tourist center, where we could get town guide maps in French (or other languages), use the restroom, then visit points of interest for an hour or two. We could refill our water bottles there, buy croissants or chocolate at a bakery, and then finish at an outdoor café with an espresso or cold drink. By the end of the week we were all great friends. We also stopped every day for a swim in the Loire or a nearby lake. Between biking 30 miles a day and walking around for several hours at the stops, every day was eight hours of exercise and sight-seeing, with plenty of opportunities to practice French. In the evening, after dinner on the boat, we would walk through the village alone or with our guide, and possibly stop at a local café, before relaxing on board and then turning in early. The boat would rock gently on the canal, with thousands of stars overhead and the soft sounds of a French summer night in the countryside.

The highlight of my tour came on the next-to-last day, when there was a line at the tourist center of a medieval town, and the desk clerk was handing out maps in different languages. She would respond to the tourists by asking in their language which country they came from so she could fill out an internal survey. When I said, "Je voudrais un plan de la ville en francais" (I would like a map of the city in French), she did not even look up, but asked "De quel département venez vous?" (Which department [of France] do you come from?) I replied "Du département des Etats-Unis." (From the department of the U.S.) She looked up, surprised. "Mais vous parlez tellement bien français!" (But you speak such good French!) That was the underlying goal, to pass as a native French speaker. Mission accomplie! ♥

1960s

Sandra Dahlstrand Shevers, BA'61, MAT'62, is executive vice president of Sportsman's Market Inc. in Batavia, Ohio. She writes, "I am still very connected with the IU Alumni Association, currently serving on the Woodburn Guild, and [I am] a frequent traveler with Hoosier Travelers." Shevers and her husband, Harold, live in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Ralph T. Slabaugh, BA'62, is retired from Wyeth, the international pharmaceutical company. He lives in Elkhart, Ind.

1970s

In January 2010, **Florence Binford Kichler**, BA'72, MBA'85, founder, publisher, and president of Indianapolis-based Patria Press, was 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 Indianapolis, also serves as president of the 3500-member Independent Book Publishers Association and is a member of the Kelley School of Business Women's Alumni MBA Advisory Board. The top 50 list recognizes women who have made, and are still mak-

ing, a significant contribution to the book industry.

Michele Reiling McCaffrey, BA'72, MLS'74, is a reference and instruction librarian at St. Michael's College in Colchester, Vt. She writes that in October 2010 she was part of the 40th anniversary of the 1970 IU Junior Year Abroad group that visited Bologna. Fourteen of the original 16 students attended the reunion along with the program director from that year. McCaffrey lives in Essex Junction, Vt.

R. William Jonas Jr., BA'78, JD'81, a partner in the South Bend, Ind., law firm Hammerschmidt, Amaral, & Jonas, has been named by *Indiana Super Lawyers* magazine one of the top attorneys in the state for 2011. Jonas's practice focuses on bankruptcy and insolvency, estate planning and administration, and commercial and other civil litigation. He has practiced in South Bend since 1981 and is the past president of the 12,500-member Indiana State Bar Association. Jonas met his wife, Kathleen (Harsh), BA'78, MLibSt'97, when they were working on the *Indiana Daily Student* and will celebrate their 32nd wedding anniversary in August. The couple has three children and the family lives in South Bend.

1980s

Diana L. Mercer, BA'85, JD'88, and Katharine J. Wennechuk, BA'87, are the authors of *Making Divorce Work: 8 Essential Keys to Resolving Conflict and Rebuilding Your Life*, published by Perigree, a division of the Penguin Group. In the book, Mercer and Wennechuk help readers struggling through divorce learn how to leave their marriages as healthy, happy, and whole as possible. Mercer is an attorney and founder of Peace Talks Mediation Services in Los Angeles. She has written numerous articles on divorce and child custody, and has been featured in *Consumer Reports*, the *Wall Street Journal*, and *Ladies Home Journal*. Wennechuk is a certified divorce mediator and chief information officer of Peace Talks Mediation Services. She previously enjoyed a successful career in business development for a variety of industries.

Holly Tucker Hamilton, BA'89, is the author of *Blood Work: A Tale of Medicine and Murder in the Scientific Revolution*, published in 2011 by W.W. Norton & Co. The book is an account of the first blood transfusion experiments in 17th-century Paris and London. Hamilton is an associate professor at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tenn.,

Grace P. Young: The last of a famous family to serve IU

ISABEL PIEDMONT-SMITH

Over forty years after her death, **Grace Philputt Young** is still making a positive difference in the lives of IU French students. After teaching French at IU for 39 years and publishing, with her husband Bert Young, the *Registre de la Grange, 1659-1685*, about Molière's theater troupe, she made arrangements to bequeath income from sale of the two-volume work to the IU-Bloomington French program through the IU Foundation. The Grace P. Young Scholarship Fund has given awards to excellent students at the graduate and undergraduate levels ever since.

Grace P. Young was the last in a long and distinguished family to serve Indiana University. The great granddaughter of David H. Maxwell, a founding father of IU, and granddaughter of James D. Maxwell, a member of the IU Board of Trustees for 31 years, Professor Young may have felt her destiny was inextricably tied with our beloved university.

Born in 1886 in Bloomington, Grace Philputt was raised in Indianapolis. She returned to Bloomington to attend IU, where

she earned her Bachelors degree in 1908. She then pursued studies at the Sorbonne in Paris, as well as in Grenoble and Tours, and returned to Bloomington to complete her Masters degree in 1914. After a few years teaching French at her high school alma mater, she returned to IU as instructor of French in 1917, moving up the ranks to Assistant, Associate, and in 1952, Full Professor.

While at IU, Professor Philputt met Professor Bert E. Young, also a French scholar and head of the Department of Romance Languages, and then the Department of French and Italian when it was formed in 1934. The two married in 1923 and travelled often together in Europe. They were in Paris in the summer of 1927 when suddenly Bert was called upon to represent the university at a ceremony before the King of Belgium. Having borrowed the appropriate attire, he neglected to bring a gift as all the other university dignitaries had done, and so presented the King with a rolled up copy of the *Indiana Daily Student* instead, a story humourously reported by the Indianapolis

Star some time later.

In 1936, Grace and Bert Young received permission from the Comédie Française in Paris to analyze and compile the writings of Charles Varlet de la Grange, a prized set of manuscripts in the field of theatrical history. La Grange was an actor in Molière's theater troupe who also served as secretary and recorder of the group. He took a leadership role in the company after Molière's death in 1673, and he then became the first orator of the Comédie Française after it was formed in 1680. The Youngs were still working on this project in summer 1939, when they decided due to political events to return to the United States prematurely, leaving their work behind. They did not get back the manuscripts and their work in progress until after the war, and their edition of the *Registre de la Grange, 1659-1685* was published in 1947.

In Bloomington, the Youngs lived just a few houses west of campus on Kirkwood Avenue and walked to class together every day. She learned during her studies in France that ladies must wear hats, so Mrs. Young always wore a hat while teaching. Bert Young

where she teaches both French and the history of medicine.

1990s

Christopher B. Anderson, BA'94, MBA'03, writes, "I recently took leave after a military deployment and went to Africa to climb Mt. Kilimanjaro. I went alone but on the climb down [following] a different route, I ran into a group of Americans. It turned out that four of the girls in the group went to IU and we reminisced about [the university], Little 500, etc. It was surreal as we descended after our successful climbs of this great mountain in Tanzania and talked about great memories of IU and Bloomington." Anderson is a major in the U.S. Air Force Reserves. He lives in Shreveport, La.

Aimee Wessel Dayhoff, BA'96, an attorney with the law firm Winthrop & Weinstine in St. Paul, Minn., has been chosen as one of *Minneapolis/St. Paul Business Journal's* 2011 '40 Under Forty' — a listing of the Twin Cities' most successful professionals under the age of 40. She is a member of the firm's business and commercial litigation and employment groups and counsels clients in business, commercial, and employment litigation. Dayhoff lives in Minneapolis with her husband and two children.

2000s

Patricia Gercas Leipsic, BA'00, was honored in November at the Sanctuary for Families Above and Beyond *Pro Bono* Achievements Awards and Benefits in New York City. Sanctuary for Families is a not-for-profit agency dedicated to serving domestic violence victims, sex trafficking victims, and their children. Leipsic is an associate at the law firm Fross Zelnick Lehrman & Zissu. She was honored for her efforts and strategic advocacy on behalf of an asylum client, as well as her commitment to achieving the best result for her client and her client's children.

Nicholas F. Legan, Cert/BA'01, has joined *VeloNews*, a competitive cycling publication, as technical editor for the magazine and website. Legan had been a mechanic for several years on professional tours, including the Tour de France. He was head mechanic for the U.S. Olympic team in 2008 and for national teams competing in world championship competitions. At IU, he was a mechanic for the Little 500. Legan has a weekly column, "Ask Nick," on *VeloNews.com*.

In May 2010, **Rebekah E. Davis**, BA'02, won the Democratic nomination for the U.S. House of Representatives in her home state of Nebraska.

Emily Salmins, BA'03, was awarded the McGill Associates Prize in Translation (French to English) at McGill University's 2010 Convocation in Montreal. The prize is awarded annually to the student with the best academic record in the Certificate in Translation program at the university. After completing her degree in French and English at IU, Salmins went on to perfect her knowledge of business French at the Catholic Institute of Paris, where she earned a teaching certificate in June 2007. She is currently a legal assistant with writing experience in legal firms in both Paris and Washington, D.C. Salmins also has experience in teaching French as a foreign language in the United States.

Adrienne J. Dye, BA'08, MFA'10, is an insight translation associate with Lextant in Columbus, Ohio.

We want to hear from you!

If you are a member of the IU Alumni Association, please send your updates to ialumni@indiana.edu with "Class Notes" in the subject line of your e-mail. Please include name while you attended IU, IU degree and year, university ID number or last four digits of SSN, and mailing address. Not yet an IUAA member? Sign up at <http://alumni.indiana.edu>.

retired in 1945 and passed away in 1949, struck by a car on campus.

Grace carried on teaching until her retirement in 1956. "I'll miss the students very much," she told an IDS reporter that summer. "I've taught two generations, both fathers and sons. It's been work, but it's been fun too!" She almost certainly taught some mothers and daughters as well.

"It is safe to say that Mrs. Young taught French to more students than any other person in the history of Indiana University," wrote her colleagues Alice Nelson and Samuel Will after Grace's death in 1970. "As a human being she was unsurpassed in her sincerity, her warmth, her integrity, and her devotion to Indiana University."

This last quality can be felt in the spring of each year when the Department bestows the Grace P. Young Undergraduate and Graduate Awards on its most outstanding students. When Professor Margaret Gray is asked to present the awards, she always wears a hat, in memory of our benefactor. ♡



*It's been a lot of work,
but it's been fun too!*

("Conferences" continued from page 2)

nella Sicilia di Inizio Novecento" will soon be published in the conference proceedings. She says, "It is very important for graduate students to have such an experience; not only to have the chance to expose their research, but also because this is probably the best way to become part of the 'Academia' and a way to build their scholarly identity."

Last, but not least, conferences provide the opportunity to travel and to take a break from a busy semester. This past year, our graduate students took their work, which covers varying intellectual terrain, to locations just as diverse. Topics presented include gastronomy in French and francophone literature; homosexuality in Italian literature and film; nuns and *monacazioni forzate*; and Picard verbal morphology. FRIT students represented the department in 15 conferences from Louisville to London and from Morgantown to Manhattan.

Overall, conference participation has allowed our graduate students to be active this year promoting their work, opening themselves up to feedback, and entering rewarding scholarly discussions. ♡

Our website is new!
www.indiana.edu/~frithome

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Report from Firenze: Adventures in Tuscany

ANDREA CICCARELLI

IU's Florence Program students like a challenge. During one of several cultural excursions outside the city, the 31 students plus program instructors and faculty started the steep hike up to the top of Pratomagno, 1,700 meters above sea level. About two-thirds of the way up, we encountered a metal bar whose purpose was to ensure no vehicles attempt the final portion of the trail. We could have easily walked around this barrier, but instead the students decided they would try to jump over that bar without touching it. Through teamwork we all succeeded. This little victory renewed our energy for the climb to the top, where we were rewarded with a spectacular view of the Apennine mountain chain from northeast of Florence into Emilia Romagna.

I had the pleasure of co-directing the Florence Program again this year, and the trip up Pratomagno was certainly a highlight. That day we entered a nature preserve where wild boar, mustangs, and deer run undisturbed and then stopped in Reggello's Pieve di San Pietro a Cascia where we viewed the famous triptic (1423) by Masaccio, the Florentine master whose work on the life of St. Peter in the Brancacci Chapel in Florence has been recognized as the first true Renaissance painting. We then visited the Benedictine abbey of Vallombrosa, where Milton spent several months working on his magnum opus *Paradise Lost* (1667), before beginning our ascent of the Pratomagno.

The first part of the hike was steep and slippery, but even including the impromptu hurdle-jumping, all 37 of us made it to the top within two hours. After enjoying the view and descending, several of us even had energy left to play a serious game of dodge ball before boarding the bus. All our exertions were well-rewarded with a multiple-course meal at a superb

restaurant about half-way down from the abbey, overlooking the Florentine valley. It was a good day in the Florence program, focusing more on the beauty of nature than the beauty of art, as we did on most other excursions.

This year, Florence program students were once again housed in the Hotel Villani, run by brothers Michele and Ermino Villani, who are almost as important to the program as the faculty directors. Michele was in the kitchen each afternoon preparing succulent dinners for the students while Erminio was in charge of making breakfast and helping with local information, WIFI access, weekend trips, and tips for living in Florence. I co-directed the program this year with Professor **Martha MacLeish** of IU's Hope School of Fine Arts, and we were assisted by four excellent associate instructors, two from the Italian program: **Luisa Garrido Baez** (MA'10) and **David Winkler**.

In addition to drawing and language courses, which students could select, almost all program participants enrolled

in the Renaissance Florence course, which I designed to explore the birth and the development of Renaissance art and culture utilizing the city itself. The class sessions were held in front of the most important and famous works of art of the period, and students were mesmerized by this amazing opportunity. To see Donatello's or Michelangelo's sculptures, or Brunelleschi's architectural inventions, or Raphael's or Botticelli's paintings in the environment in which they were conceived is an unparalleled experience.

In addition to the excursion to Vallombrosa, we also visited Assisi, Siena, Bologna, Lucca, and San Gimignano to explore Italian culture through the art and architecture found there. We always concluded our trips with meals of seven to eight courses so the students could taste a broad variety of local cuisine, an important part of Tuscan culture. All in all, it was another great year for the Florence program, which has been one of IU's most popular overseas programs since the late 1970s. 🍷



PHOTO: DUDVA