



## Department holds steady through challenges in the liberal arts

ANDREA CICCARELLI

*This is my last newsletter as chair of the Department of French & Italian. I have had the privilege to serve as chair since 1998, except for a three-year hiatus between 2008 and 2011. Many changes have occurred during this period, including the retirement of several revered colleagues and the sad passing of a few, while with pleasure we have welcomed new faculty members into the fold.*

Across the country, there has been a steady drop in interest in liberal arts education, and consequently, in the study of languages and cultures, including French and Italian. IU and our department have been proactive, taking measures to preserve and improve the great academic tradition that has distinguished us throughout the nation and the world. Thanks to the generous gifts of our alumni and

some decisive changes in our academic offerings, we are boldly addressing the declining interest in the liberal arts. We have implemented new, popular interdisciplinary culture classes, as well as newly conceived hybrid and online language courses. The amazing pedagogical dedication and teaching skills of my colleagues and of our wonderful graduate teaching assistants remain essential components of our pedagogical success.

Continued success cannot be achieved, naturally, without other important factors, beginning with the remarkable scholarly achievements of our faculty, which have been recognized as outstanding in both quantity and quality of publications in recent years. This brilliant scholarly output, flanked by a solid cohesion and shared planning, have preserved and increased our national and international reputation. The job

placement of our recent graduates has also been great to see, and is an additional measure of our academic standing. I would be remiss if I did not stress the work of our wonderful staff, led since 1998 by the indefatigable Isabel Piedmont-Smith: their work is not only necessary, but also inventive and invaluable, as they so often find solutions that help students and faculty navigate the frequently obscure administrative sea.

Finally, I am delighted that my colleague Massimo Scalabrini has accepted the challenge to be the new chair of the department as of July 1, 2015. His proven scholarly and pedagogical experience, his demonstrated leadership as Director of Renaissance Studies, and his knowledge of departmental needs acquired as Director of Undergraduate Studies in Italian will serve him well to lead us into the future.





**Where did the time go?** Once again, the six weeks of the IU Florence summer program flew by this year, filled with language and culture classes, many in the piazzas and museums of Florence, as well as excursions to experience the natural beauty and architecture of other towns in Tuscany, Umbria, and Emilia-Romagna.

Students on the Florence program take two 3-credit classes that meet every day from Monday to Thursday, while on Friday they participate in group excursions. All students are housed in the charming Hotel Villani, in via delle Oche, a few steps from the magnificent Florence cathedral of Santa Maria del Fiore, capped by Brunelleschi's famous dome. Each student enjoys a room with a view of some of the most spectacular artistic sights in the world and the wonderful

meals cooked by Michele Villani.

This year we had 28 students: a well-behaved and cohesive group, prone to adventure and certainly not averse to having fun, but also very committed to studying as the final grades prove. Two Associate Instructors from the Italian program did an excellent job teaching the language classes and helping with the excursions: Lucia Gemmani (MA '14) and Roberto Borfecchia. I served as co-director with my colleague Professor Tim Kennedy from the Hope School of Fine Arts, who was game as usual, and two Associate Instructors from Fine Arts were part of the team as well. All students took my Renaissance Florence course and enrolled in either a language or a fine art class as well. My class is mostly taught on site, in museums or outdoor spaces, and requires much attention and even physical stamina on the part of the students who have to march from one site to the other and stand at attention while we discuss the artistic works on our syllabus.

Our excursions this year were to Siena, San Gimignano, Assisi, and Bologna, where we met the resident director of the Bologna Consortial Studies Program, Andrea Ricci (PhD '02). We also visited Vallombrosa, a shadowy, dense forest in the mountains northeast of Florence, where, on a plateau at 1,000 meters of height, the medieval abbey by the same name stands since the late 1100's. The trip to Vallombrosa and its peak, Pratomagno (1,700 meters), is the most naturalistic of our excursions. After we visit the Masaccio museum in Reggello, a small town at the bottom of the mountain, we normally venture up to the top of Pratomagno through rather

steep trails. Students love this excursion as it offers an unparalleled combination of history, art and nature only one hour away from Florence.

The Florence summer program was founded in 1981 and has been a popular program with students from various majors ever since. We hope to keep it strong and lively for years to come!



*Will these students ever get off my back? Professor Andrea Ciccarelli carries Florence program participant Leo Mohlke during an extreme version of a "steal the bacon" game. BELOW: A tired Professor Tim Kennedy is lifted over a barricade during the ascension to Pratomagno in Vallombrosa. Photo: Leo Mohlke.*



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**Do professors ever really retire?** Not if their scholarship is their passion, as is the case for Emanuel Mickel and Jacques Merceron, two professors of French who are transitioning into emeritus status this year. Both look forward to finishing research projects, although spending more time with family is also a priority. A dinner was held on May 6 in the University Club to honor their contributions to the department, the university, and the profession, and to have a little fun at their expense as well.

## A Dedication to Teaching

Prior to moving to the US to pursue a PhD degree, Jacques Merceron had already enjoyed a successful career as a high school teacher in France. He came to IU in 1993, and here he taught a variety of undergraduate and graduate courses in French civilization, culture, and literature with an emphasis on the medieval period. He created an extensive visual repertoire for F361, *La France médiévale (jusqu'à 1500)*, well before PowerPoint slides became a commonplace teaching tool. He also exposed his students to other relevant IU resources. "I have fond memories," he says, "of taking the students to the Lilly Library

to look at medieval manuscripts and inviting graduate students from the Early Music Institute to sing Machaut and other French poets." (Machaut was one of the last great French poets who was also a composer.)

Merceron also taught outside the medieval field. For example, his course on Surrealism was a big hit, especially when students had a chance to try some of the Dada and surrealist games in class, such as picking words out of a hat and seeing what combinations arise. (This game has the appropriately nonsensical name *cadavre exquis*.) Over the years, Professor Merceron's students have praised him for being well-organized, open to questions, and enthusiastic about his subject matter.

Emanuel Mickel has taught at Indiana University longer than almost any other professor in our department's history, and he doesn't plan to stop, securing a gig in the Hutton Honors College for Spring 2016. He came to IU in 1968 after a few years at the University of Nebraska and has taught almost every literature and culture course in our undergraduate curriculum. He considers his seminar on the 19th century poet Charles Baudelaire one of his favorite courses. "You can teach the entire 19th-century out of his

poetry," says Mickel. "He is considered the main representative of Romantic poetry, but he is the forerunner of all Symbolism as well." Baudelaire's reviews of the Paris Salon art exhibits provided a tangent for Prof. Mickel to cover some French art history as well.

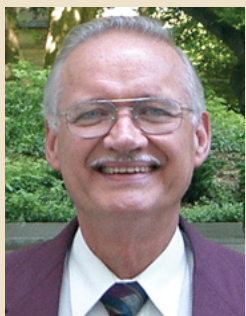
Several times in the 1970s and 80s, Mickel co-taught a graduate course with Professor Sidney Johnson from Germanic Studies in which they examined different literary and cultural interpretations of medieval themes such as Tristan and Yseult, Lancelot, and the Holy Grail. Students had to know either Old French or Middle High German and read the other language in translation. It was a logical organization of knowledge which crossed departmental lines and was popular with students.

## A Passion for Research

Of course the extensive reading and analysis each scholar has done for his own research has benefitted students directly through an enrichment of their reading lists and a greater level of contextualization of literary works. Both professors are eager to continue their research trajectory into retirement.

Professor Mickel is finishing a book that tackles the broad subject of the development of character in various genres of western literature. From the times of ancient Greece and Rome, characters in fiction represented abstract characteristics: Greed, Love, Death, or Weakness, for example. Even up to the 19th century, most fictional characters were written as having one defining trait, and then gradually in modern times characters became more complex and harder to categorize. Mickel began his exploration of the evolution of characters in fiction in the 1970s and plans to finish his work within a few years.

Meanwhile, Professor Merceron will continue to research and write his monograph on the extensive lexical and metaphorical network that medieval authors of French devotional works used



**Emanuel J. Mickel, Jr.**

PhD, *University of North Carolina*, 1965  
Professor at *Indiana University* since 1968  
Chair of the Department, 1984-95 and 2009-11  
Director of the IU Medieval Studies Institute, 1976-1991  
Dual specialization in *Medieval Studies & 19th-Century Literature*  
Books include *The Enfances Godefroi and the Retour de Cornumarant*. Vol. 3 (University of Alabama Press, 1999) and *Eugène Fromentin* (Boston: G.K. Hall, 1982).  
Courses include "A Question of Love," "The Old French Crusade Cycle," and "Baudelaire"



**Jacques E. Merceron**

PhD, *University of California, Berkeley*, 1993  
Professor at *Indiana University* since 1993  
Founder and organizer, Student-Faculty Forum Series  
Specialization in *French medieval studies and French folklore and mythology*  
Books include *Le Message et sa fiction. La Communication par messenger dans la littérature française des XIIe et XIIIe siècles* (University of California Press, 1998) and *Dictionnaire des saints imaginaires et facétieux du Moyen Âge à nos jours* (Paris, Editions du Seuil, 2002).  
Courses include "La France médiévale. Histoire et institutions (jusqu'à 1500)" and "Fabliaux et contes du Moyen Âge"

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**Julie Auger** spent her sabbatical year in France, where she conducted new field-work in Picardie, worked on her upcoming book on the Picard language, and gave numerous lectures. Her talk at Université de Lille 3 gave her the opportunity to interact with alumni Chad Langford (MA '98) and Kathleen O'Connor (MA '98), as well as current doctoral student Amber Panwitz (MA '12). She also delivered a co-authored paper with alumna Anne-José Villeneuve (PhD '11) at the ICLaVe 8 conference in Leipzig, Germany.

During the past year, **Hall Bjørnstad** gave invited two talks in relation to his book project on the construction of the royal exemplarity of Louis XIV. In December 2014 he organized a two-day interdisciplinary workshop at IUB entitled "Rethinking Early Modern Conversion." Bjørnstad will take over the role of Director of Renaissance Studies from his colleague Massimo Scalabrini this summer.

**Vincent Bouchard** chaired a panel and gave an invited talk at the American Council for Quebec Studies conference in Montreal last October. He also gave papers in Morelia (Mexico), Toronto, and New Orleans. In May, he presented "Cinemade: From propaganda to mass education" at the African Literature Association meeting in Bayreuth, Germany (see related article).

This spring, **Brett Bowles** gave talks at the University of Iowa Art Museum on "French and American Poster Art of the First World War," and in Aubagne, France, at a colloquium to celebrate the 120th anniversary of filmmaker Marcel Pagnol's birth. The second talk specifically addressed the impact and reception of Pagnol's films in the United States.

In January, **Alison Calhoun** published her first book, *Montaigne and the Lives of the Philosophers: Life Writing and Transversality in the Essais*, with University of Delaware Press. This summer, she is a Visiting Scholar in the Department of the History of Ideas at the University of Stockholm, Sweden, where she has a grant to conduct research on theater machines, stage sets, and costumes from early modern Europe.

As coordinator of Indiana University's commemoration of World War I during the 2014-15 academic year, **Andrea Ciccarelli** helped to bring diplomats, scholars, and films to IUB to reflect on the war that began 100 years ago. This coincided with his first Hutton Honors College class as Dean

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of that school, "1914-2014: World War I Issues and Legacies for the Global World of Today."

Over the past year, **Margaret Gray** gave lectures at Paris X-Nanterre, Paris IV-Sorbonne and the Université de Nice/Sophia Antipolis. She also presented at the International Colloquium in 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>-Century French and Francophone Studies in Baton Rouge, where she was joined by colleague Oana Panaïté, doctoral student Georgy Khabarovskiy (MA '12), and alumna Marie-Line Brunet (PhD '13), who also presented papers.

**Eileen Julien** continues her service as Director of the Institute for Advanced Study at IUB and recently presented a paper at the African Literature Association meeting in Bayreuth, Germany: "On the Road: Claude McKay and Richard Wright in France in the 1920s and 1950s." She also contributed to the volume *Critical Theory and the Production of African Literature and Cinema*. (Ed. Harrow and Ekotto, IU Press, 2015).

**Emanuel Mickel** celebrated his retirement as well as his grandson's graduation from IU with a family reunion in Florida in May. This summer he will attend the wedding of his granddaughter, Kathleen Gifford (BA-French and BS-Chemistry, '10), who is in her fifth year in a dual PhD/MD program at Northwestern University. In July, he will present a paper on fiction and history in Old French epic and romance at the Congrès international de la Société Rencesvals in Rome.

Last Fall, **Oana Panaïté** edited a special issue of the journal *L'Esprit Créateur*: The International Quarterly of French and Francophone Studies on "The Idea of Literature." She is currently working as co-editor of a textbook of French and Francophone literature and culture entitled *Entre-Textes*. In April, she organized a symposium on the topic of "Security, Violence, Law" under the aegis of the IU Center for Theoretical Inquiry in the Humanities.

Professor Emeritus **Samuel N. Rosenberg** participated actively in two conferences during the past year: the American Liter-



Kelly Sax, Director of Language Instruction in French, teaches an online F100 Elementary French course.

ary Translators Association meeting in Milwaukee and the International Congress on Medieval Studies in Kalamazoo. He was the translator for the book *Berlioz on Music: Selected Criticism, 1824-1837*, edited by Katherine Kolb (Oxford University Press, 2015) and also published two other translations of medieval poetry.

**Kevin Rottet** is working on the last phase of a Louisiana lexicography project along with IU Distinguished Professor Emeritus Albert Valdman and Tom Klingler (PhD '92) from Tulane University. The volume will treat select items in an etymological, historical and comparative perspective. Rottet is also working on a separate book project on the Welsh language to be published by the University of Wales Press.

**Colleen Ryan** gave workshops and lectures on arts integration in language curricula and 21st-century liberal arts learning at Harvard, Dartmouth, and Montclair State University this year. Her new intermediate Italian textbook *Caleidoscopio* was published by Pearson, and she completed an edited volume on the arts in the foreign language curriculum for Cengage Learning.

The French program is online! **Kelly Sax**, Director of Language Instruction in French, devoted a lot of time this year to learning about online teaching and developing the department's first online French course, piloted this summer. By Spring 2016, the program will have all four semesters of the language sequence available online.

**Massimo Scalabrini** serves as department chair as of July 1, 2015. This past year, he continued in his roles as Director of Renaissance Studies and Director of Undergraduate Studies in Italian. He also published an



edition of a collection of essays on ancient comedy by the 16th-century philologist and critic Lodovico Castelvetro: *Parere sopra una comedia di Aristophano et sopra ciascuna di Plauto* (Bologna: Commissione per i testi di lingua, 2014).

The “Petrarche.org” Project, for which **H. Wayne Storey** was awarded a three-year National Endowment for the Humanities grant last October, is in full swing. Storey is collaborating with John Walsh (School of Informatics and Computing) and graduate research assistant Isabella Magni (MA ’13). They have presented aspects of the digital “rich-text” edition of Petrarch’s *Rerum vulgarium fragmenta* at several international conferences as work on the text continues.

**Nicolas Valazza** has published two articles: “Les Goncourt et la neutralisation de la critique” in *Elseneur*, and “L’Idole zutique entre souffle lyrique et excrétion corporelle” in *Parade sauvage: Revue d’études rimbaldiennes*. He also presented a paper at the 19th-Century French Studies Colloquium in San Juan, Puerto Rico. Valazza was promoted to Associate Professor with tenure this year.



**Mark L. Musa**, renowned Dante scholar and Distinguished Professor Emeritus, passed away in his adopted home town of Mallorca, Spain on December

31, 2014. After earning his PhD from Johns Hopkins University in 1961, Musa joined the faculty at Indiana University and taught in the Department of French and Italian until his retirement in 1999. He made lasting contributions to Italian Studies at IU, founding the Bologna Consortial Studies Program in 1965 and helping to establish the Italian doctoral program. His scholarly career was long and productive, and he published many important critical editions and translations, including Dante’s *Divine Comedy*, Petrarch’s *Canzoniere*, Boccaccio’s *The Decameron*, Machiavelli’s *The Prince*, and Pirandello’s *Six Characters in Search of an Author*. He was also an award-winning teacher whose M333 class “Dante and His Times” always attracted a crowd. Musa was truly a remarkable man.

*Breaking the wall between spectator and film* is an essential element of Vincent Bouchard’s research, as he examines what happens when viewers step out of their “cinematographic torpor... to open the possibility of taking part in a form of collective reflexion.” Quoted from a recent article abstract, this description serves as a good introduction to Bouchard, who joined the Department of French and Italian in August 2014 as an Assistant Professor with a specialization in French Media Studies. Not a film scholar in the traditional sense, Bouchard was hired more for his expertise in analyzing human interaction with media in general, focusing on France and the francophone world.

Film, however, was what drew Bouchard to advanced study. He was inspired by Michel Brault, a celebrated Canadian cinematographer known for films such as the documentaries *Pour la suite du monde* and *L’Acadie, l’Acadie*. He was also influenced by the work of anthropologist and filmmaker Jean Rouch. Rouch was a French civil engineer in Niger who began exploring film as a way to document the culture. He went on to invent cinéma-vérité as a style of documentary filmmaking, and was a pioneer in the field of visual anthropology. Like Rouch, Bouchard’s work is cross-disciplinary in nature, and he employs innovative methods in his teaching and research.

As a Masters student in Film Studies at the University of Montreal, Bouchard was encouraged to pursue his doctorate by a member of his committee due to the originality of his research, looking at cinema from a technical point of view. As the University of Montreal did not offer a doctoral degree in film studies, he pursued a degree in comparative literature there, which allowed him to explore many topics such as postcolonialism and intermediality during his graduate career. Bouchard thus formed a strong theoretical background that was useful to draw upon for his doctoral thesis. He decided to enter a joint-degree program with the University of Paris III, *Sorbonne nouvelle* to also obtain a doctorate in cinema and audiovisual studies. He completed both in 2006.

His mentors were prolific and innovative scholars such as Philippe Despoix, Walter Moser, and Michel Marie, who created meaningful relationships with graduate as well as undergraduate students both at their institutions and through encounters at conferences. These interactions were all the more appreciated as many professors, especially in France, tend to keep a distance from their students. Bouchard learned a lot from one-on-one conversations with professors, and he appreciated their

accessibility, something that he tries to model with his own students.

After serving as Assistant Professor at the University of Louisiana-Lafayette for five years, Bouchard came to IU and began to know our undergraduate students through teaching F300 *Reading and Expression in French* and a new course he created, F222 *French Media Studies*. He enjoys working with students who surprise him with unexpected perspectives, which he sees as a welcome discovery. He most enjoys when students see a topic in a new light and are able to approach the matter using this new paradigm. Enjoying the courses that he has taught thus far, he has found IUB students to be hard working, motivated and well prepared. Bouchard encourages his students to be more daring: he values intellectual risk-taking and thinking outside the box. He looks forward to teaching his first graduate course at IU this Fall, titled “Médiatisations de l’oralité : écriture, enregistrement audiovisuel, remédiations numériques.”

Bouchard’s current work focuses on educational screenings of HIV/AIDS prevention propaganda in Francophone West Africa, and the impact of interactions with the movies before, during, and after the film screening. Creating changes in sexual behavior is particularly difficult in countries like Burkina Faso, where even speaking about sex is taboo. Previous research had found that although these communities realized that HIV/AIDS is a problem, the screening of educational videos aimed at deterring the spread of the disease had not decreased the rate of infection. Bouchard focuses on the activities of Cinomade, a non-profit organization whose objective is the creation and dissemination of educational tools.

Based on the findings of anthropologists and sociologists, Bouchard found that older women were the key to communication in Burkina Faso’s culture thanks to a complex relationship between each man and the woman chosen to bring him up. Due to these strong traditional relationships, these women were able to influence the behaviors of the men in a way that would not be possible with other segments of the population. This fact has been the key to engaging better within the community and generating meaningful discussion

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## Pi Delta Phi chapter founded at IUB

*“I promise to do everything in my power to spread French and francophone culture throughout the world.”* Seventeen students of French thus stated the pledge of Pi Delta Phi, the French national honor society, as they became members of its newest chapter at IU-Bloomington this spring. But they said it in French, bien sûr!

The Department of French and Italian was pleased to host an installation and induction ceremony at the University Club on April 3 for the Omicron Upsilon chapter of this 109-year old academic honor society. Pi Delta Phi Vice President and IU alumna Olga Amarie (PhD '11) conducted the installation of the Omicron Upsilon chapter. Professor Barbara Vance, Director of Undergraduate Studies in French, planned and organized the ceremony, and identified students who met the membership criteria. There were a total of thirty-two students inducted this spring. Study abroad and

the holiday weekend meant many could not attend.

Pi Delta Phi is the oldest academic honor society for a modern foreign language in the United States, founded at the University of California, Berkeley, in 1906. It is comprised of more than 370 chapters, is a member of the Association of College Honor Societies, and is endorsed by the American Association of Teachers of French. Its purpose is to recognize outstanding scholarship in the French language and its literatures, to increase the knowledge and appreciation of Americans



New Pi Delta Phi inductees are flanked by Professor Barbara Vance (left) and PDP Vice President Olga Amarie (PhD '11, right). Photo: Orion Day

for the cultural contributions of the French-speaking world, and to stimulate and encourage French and francophone cultural activities. The French program at IUB has been committed to these goals since its inception, so we are thrilled to finally have a Pi Delta Phi chapter on campus!

## Students and instructors shine at annual awards ceremony

We are proud to celebrate the student academic award winners for 2014-15! Students, faculty, and staff once again enjoyed a festive ceremony in the University Club of the Indiana Memorial Union in April after professors grappled with the difficult job of choosing the award winners. The students in the list below are undergraduates unless otherwise noted, and their majors are in parentheses. The best Associate Instructors and faculty teachers were also celebrated.

Félicitations and congratulazione to all!

### **Eneria Ruggeri Memorial Awards**

Vianna Newman (Italian, Individualized Major)  
Lucia Gemmani (PhD student: Italian)

### **Quentin M. Hope Memorial Award**

Elizabeth Timberlake (Psychology)

### **Charlotte F. Gerrard Memorial Prize**

Isabel Bradley (Anthropology, French)

### **Peter Cannings Memorial Prize**

Rodica Frimu (PhD student: French linguistics)

### **Mary V. Lèbano Memorial Prize**

Ian Bever (English, Italian, Psychology)

### **Olga Ragusa Graduate Award**

Carlotta Paltrinieri (PhD student: Italian)

### **Lander MacClintock Memorial Award**

Kassandra Chronis (Journalism)

### **Albert and Agnes Kuersteiner Memorial Prize**

Dana Vanderburgh (French, Int'l Studies)

### **Grace P. Young Graduate Awards**

Mark Black (PhD student: French linguistics)

Amber Panwitz (PhD student: French linguistics)

Flavien Falantin

(PhD student: French/Francophone Studies)

### **Grace P. Young Undergraduate Awards**

Ava Dickerson (French, Individualized Major, English)

Kathleen Gordon (French, Biology)

Ash Kulak (French, Gender Studies, Biology)

### **Mario & Katrina Vangeli Memorial Award**

Adam Leep (Communication & Culture, Italian)

### **John K. Hyde Award**

Abigail Elston (Linguistics, French)

### **Carol Ann Brush Hofstadter Memorial Scholarships**

Matthew Jacob Schmaltz (Italian, Art History, Classical Studies)

Mitchell Sigmund (English and Italian)

### **Gamma Kappa Alpha Italian Honor Society**

Ian Bever (English, Italian, Psychology)

Halle Hill (French)

Vianna Newman (Italian, Individualized Major)

Mitchell Sigmund (English and Italian)

Kara Tullman (Communication & Culture)

Nadia Zunarelli (Informatics)

### **French Associate Instructor Awards**

Kelly Kasper-Cushman

(PhD student: French linguistics)

David Wagner

(PhD student: French/Francophone Studies)

### **Italian Associate Instructor Award**

Lucia Gemmani (PhD student: Italian)

### **Trustees Teaching Awards**

Associate Professor Oana Panaïté

Lecturer Karolina Serafin



Graduate student award recipients. Front row: Rodica Frimu, Kelly Kasper-Cushman, Lucia Gemmani. Back row: David Wagner, Carlotta Paltrinieri, Flavien Falantin. Photo: Orion Day

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



## Before 1960

"I recently celebrated my 88th birthday. I am still active and will continue to work as long as I can," writes **Gerald Newmark**, BA'48, MA'49. He is the author of *How to Raise Emotionally Healthy Children: Meeting The Five Critical Needs of Children . . . And Parents Too!*, which has been translated into several languages and has sold more than 600,000 copies. Newmark is president of the Children's Project, a non-profit organization co-founded with his wife, Deborah, which focuses on developing emotionally healthy children, families, schools, communities, and cities. He lives in Tarzana, Calif.

## 1960s

**Mary McClure Kendrick**, BA'60, MS'80, met her future husband, former football I-Man Thomas B. Kendrick Jr., BA'59, MBA'63, when both were students at IU. However, her parents did not approve of the relationship and tried to end it in 1959 by sending her on a trip to France on the Mauretania. The trip did not separate the couple and they married the following year, going on to have

three children and many grandchildren. While on transatlantic journey, however, a young man, Monty Sher, was smitten by Mary's "Hollywood" good looks and took some random photos of her. He lost touch with her, but in 2014, managed to contact her via her brother and send on the photos he had taken over 50 years previously. Since that time the two couples—the Kendricks and the Shers—have met.

## 1990s

**Rachel A. Chrastil**, BA'99, is associate professor of history at Xavier University, where she is a scholar of modern Europe. In her first two books, *Organizing for War: France, 1870-1914* and *The Siege of Strasbourg*, she examined civilian experiences before, during, and after major wars. Her current project, *Child Free: Past, Present, Future*, examines the causes, interpretations, and experiences of childlessness, drawing on major Western countries during the modern era. Chrastil's teaching includes courses on the Great War, the French Revolution, and human rights, humanitarianism, and the environmental

movement. She was a student at Yale University, Indiana University, and the Université de Provence and has been a Fulbright Scholar, researching extensively across France. In 2015 she was awarded the Roger A. Fortin Award for Outstanding Teaching and Scholarship in the Humanities at Xavier University.

## 2000s

**John A. Ippoliti**, BA'05, is a civil service linguist for the U.S. Department of Defense. A former member of the Air Force ROTC at IU, Ippoliti also has a commission in the Alaska Air National Guard. He and his wife, Megan (Boxell), BA'05, a stay-at-home mom raising the couple's five children, live in Eagle River, Alaska.

In May 2014, the Actors Theatre of Louisville, Ky., named **Chelsey H. Sorbo**, BA'14, as one of 37 recent grads chosen to be members of the 2014–15 apprentice/intern company. More than 2,000 graduates applied for the 17 internships and 20 acting apprenticeships. Sorbo was awarded an internship in stage management.

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when talking about money (wealth), poverty, and spiritual accountability in the context of human salvation. These authors satirize the common medieval belief that good deeds earn "credit" with God, whereas bad deeds create "debt," and each determine a person's fate after death. Such terminology reflects the growth of a merchant class and the rise of cities during this period.

## Decades of Service

In his 47 years as a professor in the Department of French and Italian, Emanuel Mickel took on several leadership roles, at times wearing more than one important hat in the IU administration. From 1976-1978 he served as Associate Dean of the University Graduate School. He was one of the founders of the IU Medieval Studies Institute and served as its first director 1976 to 1991 (a period when the Institute hosted five major conferences). He was also chair of the Department during two very different periods: 1984 to 1995, when enrollments were high and foreign language programs were thriving; and 2009 to 2011, when the economic downturn hit College enrollments, especially in the humanities. It's hard to imagine the smoke-filled rooms where Mickel first

participated in FRIT faculty meetings when we consider today's stringent rules to keep our campus smoke-free!

Jacques Merceron's most obvious service contribution was on the departmental level: The creation and stewardship of the Student-Faculty Forum Series. This series of 4-8 lectures per academic year gave advanced graduate students and faculty members the chance to practice scholarly presentations in front of a friendly audience, sharing their research with colleagues and gathering helpful feedback through a question and answer period. Through much arm-twisting, Merceron managed to schedule very busy people to engage in this very valuable exercise, and, armed with juice, cookies, and a sense of humor, emceed the event skillfully every time.

At the departmental retirement celebration on May 6, colleague Margaret Gray arranged for a series of skits performed by her fellow faculty members to reflect on humorous aspects of Professor Mickel's and Professor Merceron's careers. This twist on the comedic roast offered us a car trip in France where Elizabeth Merceron tries to navigate along country roads with her husband to find yet another obscure medieval chapel, and a hypothetical conference

where attendees get a little too much into Mickel's paper about Baudelaire's use of hashish. But the praise was honest as glasses were raised to toast two outstanding scholars. They will be missed!



"Bouchard" continued from page 5

around the educational films.

Bouchard has found the Bloomington campus to be an ideal home for his research in large part thanks to the collaboration possibilities between research programs in African Studies and the Media School. He continues to collaborate with scholars at the University of Montreal and around the world while settling into his new home in Bloomington, where his family enjoys the walkability, international atmosphere, and city parks. It seems Bloomington is a good fit academically and personally for this young scholar in the developing field of media studies.



## We have moved!

The Department of French & Italian has moved to the Global and International Studies Building as of August 10, 2015. It's a big change after a lifetime in Ballantine Hall. If you're in town, come over and visit us on the third floor of the west wing! The new building includes the programs and departments that are part of the School of Global & International Studies and others, like FRIT, that are related but not part of the new school.

## Gifts and endowments increase student support

We are excited to announce the following generous donations to the Department which will make possible support for our students through scholarships and annual merit awards. We greatly appreciate the engagement and support of our donors!

### Scholarships

The Carol A. Mellinger Overseas Study Scholarship Fund was created this spring through the IU Foundation, to be financed by the estate of **Carol Mellinger** (BA '68) upon her death. Ms. Mellinger earned her BA in French, graduating Phi Beta Kappa with High Distinction, and she considers her year abroad on the IU program in Strasbourg a wonderful, enriching experience. She has established this fund to enable more students to benefit from study abroad like she did. Income from the gift shall be used to support undergraduate scholarships for students participating in academic-year overseas study programs in France approved by the IU Office of Overseas Study.

**Robert W. Parks** (BA-French '61 and MAT-French '64) has made a bequest to the IU Foundation to support the Department of French & Italian (70%) and the Department of Philosophy (30%). Our portion will go to the French & Italian Enrichment Fund, which is used for general enrichment expenses including speakers' honoraria, the annual Associate Instructor awards, the French Club, and the Circolo Italiano.

Another bequest was made this year by **William K. Friedman** (BS-Business '64) for the purpose of establishing the William K. Friedman Overseas Study Scholarship for undergraduate students going to France. While a student at IU, Mr. Friedman spent most

of his junior year abroad in the northern French city of Tourcoing, supported by an IU grant. After graduation, he was awarded a full fellowship to study the then-emerging European Community at the prestigious École Supérieure des Sciences Économiques et Commerciales in Paris, from which he received a graduate studies diploma in 1966. The bequest will be used to give undergraduate scholarships to students participating in IU-approved overseas study programs in France.

For graduate students, Professor Emeritus **Samuel Rosenberg** has established the Graduate Student Dissertation Fund, also through the IU Foundation, to support doctoral candidates who are preparing their PhD dissertations in the area of French medieval studies. Preference shall be given to students working on Occitan (Provençal) culture during the period 852 to 1500. We are very grateful to our colleague for supporting students in this way.

### Annual Merit Awards

Professor Emeritus **Edoardo Lèbano**, a longstanding benefactor of our department, continues his annual donation for the Mary Lèbano Award and the Mario and Katrina Vangeli Award for undergraduate and graduate students in Italian. Professor Lèbano is also a generous contributor to the annual symposium on Italian cinema.

Finally, we are pleased to report that, for a second year, Professor **Andrea Ciccarelli** has donated funds for the Enderia Ruggeri Awards, one each for undergraduate and graduate students of Italian who have done outstanding academic work.

A hearty thank-you to all our donors!