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LAVENDER FIELD, PROVENCE

## Chair's Letter

MASSIMO SCALABRINI

**S***erving the students and faculty of the department and helping them to enhance its academic mission is a true privilege*, which comes with many rewards but is not without challenges. The first challenge is to live up to the inspiring leadership of my predecessors, most recently Andrea Ciccarelli, who concluded his final term as chair last year, after many years of effective and generous service, to focus on his new position as Dean of the Hutton Honors College.

The main challenge however, as Professor Ciccarelli pointed out in his last letter, is posed by the continuing decline in interest, at the national level and at IU, in liberal arts education and the humanities in particular, including world languages and cultures. With the unwavering support of our staff, we are working tirelessly to respond to this challenge, by implementing creative innovations while reaffirming our commitment to the core intellectual and educational values of our work as teachers and scholars. Our department is a leader in hybrid and online language teaching; we are revising our undergraduate curriculum to include more

interdisciplinary courses and to enhance the critical and intercultural skills that our courses provide; we are also broadening our graduate curriculum to ensure a rigorous training of our graduate students through bold methodological innovations and a deeply interdisciplinary approach.

French & Italian is a vibrant department whose long-standing national and international reputation is strengthened each year by the achievements of our faculty and students. I am pleased to mention just a few of these achievements. Professor Eileen Julien and a team of faculty collaborators from three universities including Associate Professor Oana Panaïté have received a National Endowment for the Humanities grant of nearly \$200,000 for a summer institute in 2016 entitled "Arts of Survival: Recasting Lives in African Cities." Another NEH grant of \$240,000 was awarded to Rudy Professor Emeritus Albert Valdman, Associate Professor Kevin Rottet, Research Associate Marvin Moody (PhD IU, 1972) and Professor Thomas Klingler (PhD IU, 1992) from Tulane University for the development of a specialized dictionary of Louisiana French. Professor H. Wayne Storey and Associate Professor John Walsh (Informatics) have been selected to receive the 2016 Outstanding Faculty Collaborative Research Award in recognition of The Petrarchive project to digitalize Petrarch's

poetic masterpiece *Rerum vulgarium fragmenta*, which started in 2013 with an IU New Frontiers Start-Up Grant, and was awarded a 3-year NEH grant in 2014.

The news about our graduate and undergraduate students is no less exciting. We had several successful dissertation defenses this year (Kelly Farmer and Jennifer Betters in French Linguistics, David Wagner and Kathryn Bastin in French/Francophone Studies and David Winkler in Italian Studies); Lisa Dolasinski (Italian Studies) and Rodica Frimu (French Linguistics) received highly competitive College Dissertation and PhD Completion Fellowships; and several of our students secured good academic jobs at institutions such as Ball State, Dallas, Duke, Notre Dame, and Villanova. Our majors and minors continue to participate in record numbers in study abroad programs, and their wonderful work has been recognized with prestigious IU prizes such as the Provost's Award for Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity (Max Andrew Nelson, BA'15) and the Kate Hevner Mueller Scholarship awarded to "students who have left the campus better than they found it" (Erik Troske, BA'16) as well as by national organizations such as the Italian honor society Gamma Kappa Alpha and the French honor society Pi Delta Phi.

# Graduation 2016: BA graduates' plans range from railroads to fashion

ISABEL PIEDMONT-SMITH

**W**hat do you do when your want to take French, but all the classes are full? Take Italian of course! That's how one of our 2016 graduates was turned on to the Italian language early in her IU career.

**Rebecca Nash** (BA, Italian and Linguistics) studied French in high school, so it was natural to continue French in college, which she did, but not before discovering a passion for Italian as well. Like many of our undergraduate majors, she studied abroad, spending 2014-15 in Bologna. This spring, she completed an honors thesis on "Origins and comparison of days of the week in Italian, French, and English" under the supervision of Dr. Karolina Serafin.

Nash was one of several graduates who gathered in the University Club in early May for a reception hosted by the Department in honor of commencement. "We are proud of our graduates," said Chair Massimo Scalabrini during the brief program mid-way through the gathering, "and wish them well as they go out into the world."

Our 2016 BA graduates are a diverse and enthusiastic group, eager to delve into a variety of projects after leaving IU. **Macaira O'Connell**, a double-major in French and Apparel Merchandising, plans to work with small, fair trade vendors as a clothing buyer, and she thinks her French will certainly come in handy working with West African artisans. **Christina Ortuzar** (BA, French and Communication & Culture) has a long-term goal of working in human resources, but her immediate plan is to become a flight attendant, a career in which foreign language skills are certainly key. O'Connell and Ortuzar both studied in Aix-en-Provence, along with **Sydney Liu** (BA, French and Journalism), where

they kept up on class notes with help from their new French friends.

**Emily Ellis** (BA, Italian and Political Science), who reminisced about her time in Bologna with her punk rocker Italian roommates, plans to go into the family business, railroad management. **Jad Labban** paired his studies with LAMP, the Liberal Arts and Management Program, to prepare for a career in business. He will first spend 7 months in Lyon as an English teaching assistant as part of the TAPIF program, like several other French BA graduates. When asked why he didn't enter the Kelley School of Business, Labban said he valued the "soft skills" that a liberal arts education provides.

Again this year, we have a few graduates who combined their French studies with a scientific field. **Maeve Bartiss**, who received degrees in both French and Human Biology, has been accepted to attend medical school and hopes to work with Médecins sans Frontières (Doctors Without Borders) one day. She completed an honors thesis this spring combining her interests and entitled "Immigration, politics, and access to health care in France and in the US." Professor Brett Bowles was her thesis advisor. **Alisa Klepach** (BA, French and Biochemistry), whose IU study of French started with the High School

*Graduation, continued on pg. 4*



French and English major Sarah Pierre-Paul (second from right) celebrates commencement with family members from Haiti at the Department of French and Italian's reception May 6 in the University Club. Photo: Lisa Huffman.

*frit* is published by the Department of French and Italian of Indiana University-Bloomington to encourage alumni interest in and support for Indiana University. The newsletter is paid for by the Department. For information about our programs, or to donate, please call (812) 855-1952 or visit [frit.indiana.edu](http://frit.indiana.edu).

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**G**reetings from Aix-en-Provence, France! In 2015-16, sixteen IU students studied literature, linguistics, history, political science, psychology, anthropology, art history, musicology, and more – in French, of course – as part of the IU overseas study program. The students, and myself as resident director, were fully immersed in French university life and French and Provençal culture. Aix is a mid-sized, culturally vibrant university town – the traditional "capitale de la Provence" -- located between the picturesque Luberon mountain range and the Mediterranean coast. Our students connected with the community in diverse ways: patronizing local pastry shops and crêperies, *bien sûr!*, but also volunteering with disadvantaged children, tutoring in English, serving as bilingual consultants, running marathons, studying the endangered provençal language, learning about local history from natives, and leaving a light carbon footprint by walking *everywhere*. During vacations, their quest for international understanding beyond France took some of them as far away as Russia (with much advance planning) and as surprisingly close as Morocco. In a year marked by terrorist attacks in both France and the US, and by the largest refugee crisis in recent history, students demonstrated great maturity, courage, and commitment to multicultural cooperation. We all return to Bloomington with new friendships and new perspectives!

-- Barbara Vance



Goofing off in sunny Aix are (from front to back) Ty Debes, Amanda Mankovich, Emily Tallo, Isabel Bradley, Manuela Molina Hernández (Wisconsin), Grace Corry (Wisconsin), and Courtney Relyea-Spivack.





## Bologna Program Celebrates 50 Years

ISABEL PIEDMONT-SMITH

**T**he *Aula absidale di Santa Lucia in the heart of Bologna* was an appropriate setting for the official ceremony marking the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the IU Bologna Consortial Studies Program (BCSP) on May 27. IU President Michael McRobbie, University of Bologna President Francesco Ubertini, former resident directors of the program from IU and its partner institutions, and alumni of the program all gathered in the apse of this former church, built in 1208, 120 years after the University of Bologna was founded. The modern windows behind the podium looked out on a stone wall from many centuries ago, as the relatively short half-century anniversary of the collaboration between the two universities was marked with both solemnity and humor.

**Andrea Ricci** (PhD'02), resident director of BCSP, welcomed the guests to the official celebration, along with Kathleen Sideli, managing director of the BCSP and Associate Vice President for Overseas Study at IU. Isabella and Massimo Musa, the wife and son of the program's founder, the late Distinguished Professor Mark Musa, were recognized, and Professor Christopher Kleinhenz (PhD'69) spoke as a former resident director from the University of Wisconsin, a BCSP partner. McRobbie bestowed upon Dr. Ubertini the Thomas Hart Benton Medallion, given to individuals who have achieved a high level of distinction in public service and have exemplified the values of IU.

"The longstanding collaboration between the University of Bologna and Indiana University has brought enormous benefits to both institutions," McRobbie said as part of his remarks. "Our students have shared ideas and learned from each other's perspectives. Extraordinary strong personal bonds have linked members of our faculties, who have grown in wisdom and ability through fifty years of collaboration."

Indeed, in addition to the study abroad program for American undergraduates, the

Bologna partnership also includes individual exchanges for University of Bologna (Unibo) students to study at IU. While more than 1,500 alumni have experienced the immersive undergraduate program in Bologna, 280 Italian undergraduate students and dozens of Italian graduate students have come to Bloomington to study in various fields. Faculty exchanges have also taken place throughout the years.

Former resident directors Professors **H. Wayne Storey** and Professor Emeritus **Edoardo Lebano** from the Department of French and Italian were also in attendance. Professor **Massimo Scalabrini** was present both as department chair and as a Unibo alumnus who studied at IU, and Professor **Andrea Ciccarelli**, Dean of the Hutton Honors College, also took part in the celebration.

A beautiful vista overlooking Bologna provided the backdrop for the next day's luncheon at the Villa Scarani, where guests were treated to the rhythm and blues stylings

of **Janis Russell**, a BCSP alumna from IU and Michael Brusha, a BCSP alumnus from Wisconsin. Alumni and former program directors were clustered in groups by decade to enjoy a buffet lunch on a beautiful spring day. Many of the student testimonials gathered for the occasion noted that the year in Bologna was a defining moment in their lives. Amanda Kaiser (BCSP 1995-96) wrote: "It was an incredible experience that taught me so much about Italy, Italian culture and myself," and when asked about the impact of the program, Anne Christopherson (1984-85) simply replied "I am still here, aren't I?" Whether still physically close to Bologna or not, alumni all agree the experience has stayed with them. Here's to the next 50 years of the BCSP!

Above: IU President Michael McRobbie addresses the crowd in the Aula absidale di Santa Lucia (photo from IU Communications). Below: Bologna Consortial Studies Program alumni gather at the Villa Scarani (photo by Lorena Leoni).



# A Brief History of French & Italian at IU

ISABEL PIEDMONT-SMITH

**1820**  
Indiana  
University  
Founded

**1860**  
Chair of  
Modern  
Languages  
established



**1887**  
First BA degrees in  
French conferred  
on 4 students

**1896**  
Romance  
Languages moves  
to Kirkwood Hall



**1966**  
First mention of Italian  
MA and PhD programs  
in the IU Bulletin

**1999**  
Professor Andrea  
Cicarelli becomes  
the first chair from the  
Italian program

**2015**  
FRIT moves to  
the Global and  
International Studies  
Building

**1836**  
French first  
taught

**1880**  
Italian first  
taught

**1885**  
Modern  
Languages  
moves to  
Maxwell Hall  
(renamed  
Mitchell Hall)

Modern  
Languages split  
into Romanic  
and Germanic  
Languages &  
Literatures



**1934**  
Romance Languages  
split into Dept. of  
French & Italian and  
Dept. of Spanish &  
Portuguese

**1959**  
Dept. of French &  
Italian moves to  
Ballantine Hall

**1969**  
First mention of separate  
PhD program in French  
linguistics in the IU  
Bulletin

**1995**  
Professor Rosemary  
Lloyd becomes the  
first female chair of  
FRIT



**“Precarious and full of uncertainty were the days when Professor Marquis arrived to take up his duties at IU,”** wrote Bennett P. Reed in the Bloomington Herald-Telephone in 1955. Emanuel Marquis was the first chair of Modern Languages at Indiana University, appointed in 1860 shortly before the Civil War began. Thus begins the history of French as a course of study at IU over 150 years ago.

French was the first modern language offered at the university, starting in 1836, followed by German in 1854. Marquis was fluent in both languages. A native of the Grand Duchy of Mecklenburg (Germany), he came to IU from Asbury College in Greencastle, Ind., a precursor to Wabash College. Professor Marquis had only one colleague in Modern Languages, Professor Hibben, who left for service as a US army chaplain in 1861. Enrollments indeed languished during the Civil War period, and one can well imagine Marquis covering all classes.

The year Marquis departed IU, 1864, was when Spanish was first offered, and Italian first appeared in the course catalog in 1880-81. In 1885, the Board of Trustees voted to split the growing Department of Modern Languages into Romanic and Germanic Languages and Literatures. Romanic, also known as Romance, languages was led by Samuel Garner and included French, Spanish, and Italian.

An annual report to the university president (at that time, David Starr Jordan) by the head of Romance Languages, John E. Matzke, gives a snapshot of the department during this period. French was still very much the focus of the department, with Italian and Spanish offered in alternating years. In 1890-91, the freshman class in the department was comprised of 13 men and 13 women, with considerably fewer students in the upper classes. The junior class read Victor Hugo's drama *Hermani* as well as Corneille's *Horace*, and in the second term studied from Thomas Frederick Crane's *Romantisme Français*. Instruction in Italian was an option for juniors, which started with grammar and ambitiously intended to read Dante by the end of the academic year.

Professor Edouard P. Baillot became

chair of the department in 1891. This was a period of rapid growth in enrollment: during his first year, the department had 40 students, and the second year over 100. An Indiana Daily Student article from 1893 relays some sense of the sociable nature of the department. “One very interesting and instructive feature of the course in Romance Languages is the soirées held at the residence of the professor in charge of the department twice a month. All students in French are invited to come and spend the evening and no language but French is spoken; the evenings are passed in singing songs and frequently some of the best students give extracts from French dramas.”

By the time of Bert Young's tenure as chair in the 1920s, Spanish had outpaced Italian as the second most popular language. The 1923-24 enrollment report showed 1,019 students in French, 646 in Spanish, and 20 in Italian. This trend was surely a factor when the Board of Trustees decided to split the department, in June 1934, into the Department of French and Italian and the Department of Spanish. Professor Young continued to chair the new department until 1945. The IU Bulletin from 1935 listed 12 faculty members in French and Italian, including Grace Philpott Young and Lander MacClintock, both featured in the pages of this newsletter in previous editions and both namesakes of current student prizes.

The French linguistics specialization at the graduate level was created in 1961, and the first PhD granted in this program was to William Henning (1964), although the official distinction between a degree in French literature and French linguistics was not made in the course bulletin until 1969-70. The 1966-67 bulletin saw the first mention of MA and PhD degrees in Italian. The first PhD in Italian was awarded to Christopher Kleinhenz in 1969.

Both French and Italian programs thrived in the late 1970s and early 1980s. In Fall 1981, there were 714 students enrolled in first-semester French and 186 in first-semester Italian. By the late 1980s, there were close to 100 graduate students. Although our numbers have decreased since then, the breadth and diversity of our faculty has increased, and our reputation remains strong.

Historical photos from the IU Archives: Mitchell Hall circa 1889 (P0045427), Kirkwood Hall in 1907 (P0020040), Ballantine Hall in 1962 (P0022647). Photo of Global & International Studies Building by Isabel Piedmont-Smith.

## Graduation, continued from pg. 2

Honors Program in Brest (Brittany), has a job lined up with Eli Lilly in pharmacological research.

Often, early exposure to different cultures sparks a passion for language. This

was the case for **Thérèse Detablan** (BA, French, Public Policy Analysis, International Business), whose family speaks a native language of the Philippines and who spent part of her childhood living in Switzerland. She was our third departmental honors





## Top new books in French

**Temps glaciaires** by Fred Vargas. If you enjoy following the endearingly dreamy, rumpled, offbeat, and brilliant Adamsberg of Vargas's detective fictions, her latest novel reaches new summits of verve, ingenuity and surprise. True to her trademark preference for historic inscription, Vargas draws on Robespierre and his Reign of Terror while taking us on a side trip to Iceland in this superbly intricate, multi-layered page-turner. Winner of the Prix Landerneau for the best detective novel of 2015.

**En attendant demain** by Nathacha Appanah. In this fifth novel by a young writer from the island of Mauritius, an interracial couple renounces artistic pursuits to raise a daughter. Stultified by their bourgeois routine, they take in a young Mauritian refugee, who discovers that she is an unwitting artistic inspiration for the couple—and drama ensues. Nostalgia for a faraway tropical homeland, regret over broken promises, the possibility of renewed

serenity, and tragedy infuse this lyrical and troubling portrait of a marriage.

**Mémoire de fille** by Annie Ernaux. A respected writer takes on a long-postponed project within an oeuvre she declines to call “autofiction”: confronting her loss of innocence at eighteen to a fellow camp counselor one summer evening in her native Normandy. Ultimately scorned by her young lover, Ernaux grapples with long-buried feelings of desire, pride, bewilderment, resentment, and humiliation.

**Boussole** by Mathias Enard. Redolent with nostalgia, longing, bittersweet humor, and erudition, Enard's beautiful, haunting and densely woven narrative is much more than a novel. From within his Vienna apartment, an ailing and insomniac musicologist thinks back on adventures in Turkey, Egypt, Iran and Syria, inflected by his impossible love for the elusive and idealized Sarah. Reflections on music, politics, history, literature, Ottoman cultures and landscapes, archaeology, Vien-

nese cityscapes, and unfulfilled desire are just a few of the rewards offered by this prize-winning novel. Winner of France's premier literary prize, the Prix Goncourt.

**La cache** by Christophe Boltanski. This first novel by a distinguished journalist for the *Nouvel Observateur* draws on family secrecy and trauma surrounding the experience of his Jewish grandfather during the Nazi occupation of France. Simulating an argument with his wife, Etienne Boltanski storms out of the family apartment, to return surreptitiously in the middle of the night—and spend 20 months hidden between floors of the apartment. Limpid, poignant, haunting, this narrative is not only the account of a family's solidarity in the face of isolation, fear, suspicion and hatred, but, on a broader scale, the record of a dark period in French history. Winner of the Prix Femina.

-- Margaret Gray and Oana Panaïté



## Top new books in Italian

**La scuola cattolica** by Edoardo Albinati. This historical novel revolves around an infamous rape and murder perpetrated by a small group of well-to-do high school seniors in the late 1970's in Rome, some of whom went to school with Albinati. He contrasts the formal education and the apparently disciplined and quiet, almost boring, daily life of the neighborhood with the underlying violence and disrespectful social education embraced by the perpetrators. Although long, this is a book worth reading because of its refined psychological, historical and sociological examination of an intricate and fundamental part of Roman culture of the time. Winner of the prestigious Strega Prize for 2016.

**Il tempo migliore della nostra vita** by Antonio Scurati. Part biography and part fiction, this novel tells the exceptional story of Leone Ginzburg, the antifascist intellectual first imprisoned and then killed by the fascists before the end of WWII. Scurati captures a post-war Italy that had to develop a new political structure, but could use the stoic example and teachings of intellectu-

als and political figures such as Ginzburg to chart a new moral direction.

**La prima verità** by Simona Vinci. In the first part of this novel, a young woman investigates a prison camp during the late 1960's *Colonel* dictatorship in Greece, where political prisoners were incarcerated together

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Well over 1,200 pages, this novel seemed out of place in the “fiction bestsellers” sections of Italian bookstores. It looked like a distracted customer had put an encyclopedia or a dictionary on the wrong shelf. And yet, Albinati pulled it off.

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with mental patients, as well as with poets and literary figures who did not adapt to the constitutional norm. In the second part of the novel, the protagonist herself experiences mental issues that bring her in close contact with the world of the marginalized. Vinci explores the natural tendency to label as mad or divergent any trend that does not conform to the needs of a political regime.

**Scusate il disordine** by Luciano Liga-

bue. The author is one of Italy's most known and beloved singers and songwriters. His stories tell of the pain of love, the tedium and solitude of provincial life, the discovery of sex, and the pleasure of music as an exorcism to life's problems. His writing is quick and direct, with short dialogues and straight answers, as if trying to render both the urgency of human communication as well as the inability to fully communicate human emotions.

**Caffè amaro** by Simonetta Agnello Hornby. Another excellent historical novel set in Italy in the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, it follows the story of Maria, who develops her free spirit thanks to her personal, erotic and political choices. Maria represents an entire generation of women and of Italians who struggled to come to terms with modernity. Hornby, an Italian-British author and jurist specializing in children's rights, writes in dense prose, exploring complicated historical and psychological ideas in a changing society.

--Andrea Ciccarelli

student this year, who wrote a thesis on “The notion of *patrimoine* in France and its impact on French legislation” under the direction of Professor Laurent Dekydtspotter. **Sarah Pierre-Paul** (BA, French and English), grew up with Haitian Creole spoken in her family,

and she had relatives from Haiti in town celebrating her commencement with her, as well as her parents from Indianapolis.

As the coffee ran low and the last biscotti was eaten, the University Club still reverberated with the excited voices of young gradu-

ates eager to make their way in the world. Overall, FRIT had 31 BA graduates in May and (scheduled for) August 2016, 10 students who earned MA degrees, and 5 students who earned PhDs.

**Julie Auger** presented some of her most recent research on the Picard language at the NWA 44 conference in Toronto (with collaborator **Anne-José Villeneuve**, PhD '11), the LSRL 46 conference in Stony Brook, and a conference on literature and language in Amiens, France. She also conducted more fieldwork in Picardie during her stay. In addition, she has given invited lectures on Picard at the University of Florida and on Québec French at the Utah Valley University. Research funds obtained from the Department as well as the IU Institute for Advanced Studies have allowed her to create a small Picard research group with three graduate students who help with the transcription of her recent recordings and develop their own new and exciting research projects.

**Vincent Bouchard** published "L'institution littéraire montréalaise et les Acadies" in Benoit Doyon-Gosselin (dir.), *Les institutions littéraires en question dans les francophonies canadiennes*, Québec: CEFAN-PUL. He presented his research on franco-Ontarian cinema and literature at the University of Toronto last year as well as "Cinéma direct: influences, échanges et collaborations," at an international colloquium in Nantes, France, in June 2015. Bouchard spent June 2015 on a short-term faculty residency at the University of Bayreuth, Germany conducting research in the archives of the Institut für Afrikastudien (IAS) for his book manuscript *The Movie Commentator in Africa: Between Propaganda and Popular Appropriation*. This summer he is continuing work on his book through a Mellon Short-Term Faculty Fellowship in France and Belgium.

During 2015-16 **Brett Bowles** began a new research project on illustrated French mural posters as a form of propaganda during the First World War. Building on an invited lecture at the University of Iowa and a conference paper on the topic, he will be conducting archival research in Paris this summer thanks to a travel grant from the College Arts & Humanities Institute.

**Alison Calhoun** spent a few days at the Morgan Library (New York) researching theater



Professors Margaret Gray (right) and Eric MacPhail (center) at Ball State University with Dorothy Stegman (PhD'99).

drawings from the library's collections. She also gave a talk at the Renaissance Society of America meeting in Boston on rethinking tolerance in Early Modern France. This summer she is spending time in Parisian libraries to conduct further research on French theater machines (anything that moves or makes things move on stage). Her current projects center particularly around Montaigne and affect and the history of French theater machines.

Over the past academic year, along with serving as Interim Director of Undergraduate Studies, **Margaret Gray** much enjoyed an invitation to speak on Sartre, Beauvoir, Camus and Existentialism on the local WFHB radio program *Interchange*. She was also honored to be inaugural co-speaker, with **Eric MacPhail**, for the Stegman Modern Languages and Classics Speaker Series at Ball State University, a series founded by Dorothy Stegman (PhD '99). Her chapter on "Swann Fétichiste" appeared in a collection on Proust with Cambridge University Press, and an article on contemporary French writer Noémi LeFebvre's novel, *L'Autoportrait bleu*, was published in a Swiss collection.

Professors **Oana Panaïté** and **Eileen Julien** attended the 30th annual congress of the Conseil International d'Études Francophones in May, where they met Caroline Fache (PhD '07), currently Associate Professor at Davidson College. The conference took place in Saly-Portudal (Senegal), and was dedicated to the topic "L'arbre à palabres". Julien moderated a special roundtable on "Les enjeux de la création artistique au Sénégal, aujourd'hui" (with writer Ken Bugul and film director Angèle Diabang). Panaïté organized a panel entitled "Paroles gelées, paroles muettes – raconter, montrer, effacer la mémoire coloniale," in which Fache also participated.

**Kevin Rottet** was awarded an NEH grant in collaboration with Rudy Professor Emeritus Albert Valdman, Tom Klingler (PhD '92) and Marvin Moody (PhD '72) to work on a comparative historical and etymological dictionary of Louisiana French. This represents the culmination of their previous work on the lexicon of Louisiana French. *The Dictionary of Louisiana French* (University Press of Mississippi, 2009) covered the contemporary (post-1930) language, whereas this new project will add the historical dimension and comparative perspectives with other places in la Francophonie. Doctoral student Carly Bahler (MA '13) and graduate Michael Kunz (MA '11) are assisting with the project. Rottet is also collaborating with Steve Morris of Swansea University, Wales on a contras-



Alumna Caroline Fache (PhD'07), Professor Eileen Julien, and Professor Oana Panaïté at the 30th annual congress of the Conseil International d'Études Francophones.

tive study of Welsh and English, to be published in late 2017.

In Fall 2015, **Colleen Ryan** enjoyed co-teaching the Italian Theater Workshop with graduate student Iuri Moscardi (MA'16), in which students approached the study of language and literature in dynamic and introspective ways, through the preparation of monologues, commedia dell'arte inspired "mask" scenes, a poetry concert, and a short one-act play by Pirandello. She also taught two Italian American literature and culture courses this year and was instrumental in planning the American Association of Teachers of Italian's Conferences in San Diego, Naples, and Boston. She was named President of the American Association of University Supervisors and Coordinators, and gave a talk and led a discussion session for this group at the ADFL Seminar West this summer.

**Wayne Storey's** Petrarch Project (<http://petrarch.org>) continues to add poems and features to the edition and apparatus. This last year Storey met with former and current students Marco Aresu, Giulia Benghi (MA'13), Isabella Magni (MA'13), and Giovanni Spani (PhD'04) at conferences at SUNY-Binghamton, Toronto, and Lausanne (Switzerland), as he presented on his most recent work on Petrarch as well as studies on Romance philology and manuscript studies. In May, he and his principal collaborator, John A. Walsh, received the Outstanding Faculty Collaborative Research Award, sponsored by the IUB Provost and the Vice Provost for Research at Indiana University, for their work on the Petrarch Project.

**Nicolas Valazza** published two articles: the first on poet Arthur Rimbaud in the *Revue d'Histoire Littéraire de la France*, and the second, "Huysmans et Zola face à la peinture de Gustave Moreau" in the *Revue des Lettres Modernes*. He also gave a paper entitled "Presqu'un livre: l'édition photolithographique des Poésies de Mallarmé" at the 23rd conference of the Society for the History of Authorship, Reading and Publishing in Montreal in July 2015, and a paper entitled "The End of Books?" at the 7th conference of the Société des Études Romantiques et Dix-neuviémistes in Paris, in January 2016.



In March, **Caterina A. "Cathy" Blitzer**, BA'69 (French and Italian), received the prestigious 2016 Paul Simon Award from the Central States Conference on the Teaching of Foreign Languages. She was recognized for her lifelong promotion of language education and cultural understanding. Blitzer, who speaks five languages, recently retired as Global Learning and World Languages Specialist for the Indiana Department of Education. The award is named for the late Illinois Senator Paul Simon, a dedicated advocate for the study of foreign languages and author of *The Tongue-Tied American: Confronting the Foreign Language Crisis*, published in 1988. Blitzer lives in Indianapolis.

**Joanne Sabarese Greenway**, MA'71 (French), taught French at Manchester College (Indiana) and then pursued a career in social work in Cincinnati, where she has lived for the past 43 years. After retirement she found the time to read and write again. She has been writing free verse poetry since the passing of her husband, Clarence Greenway (also an IU alumnus) in 2004. In March 2016, Finishing Line Press published her first poetry chapbook: *Limited Engagement*.

In 2015, **Bruce A. Byers**, PhD'88 (French), chair of the Division of Modern Language and Literature at Bob Jones University, was awarded

the South Carolina Foreign Language Teachers Association's Lifetime Achievement Award during the organization's 2015 conference. Byers is a professor of French and an expert in world language teaching methodology. He has also co-authored two high school French textbooks and has published several articles in *The French Review*, the journal of the American Association of Teachers of French. The SCFLTA Lifetime Achievement Award is presented each year to a world language educator who has demonstrated excellence in, and commitment to, teaching and leadership in world language education throughout his/her career. Byers lives in Greer, S.C.

**Jessica De Pinto**, MA '93 (Italian), practiced international trade law in Chicago for close to 18 years and is now an adjunct professor at Loyola University Chicago, where she teaches "Law and Regulations for Organizational Leaders." She is an alumna of the Bologna Consortial Studies Program and a former student of program founder Professor Mark Musa, whom she remembers fondly as a "teacher's teacher." "I tell my students jokingly (only half-jokingly) that the best business books they'll ever really need to master are *The Divine Comedy* (Dante) and *The Prince* (Machiavelli)" she writes, referring to the latter work as "how I survived law school

and the practice of law."

After completing a post-doc at the University of Glasgow, **Brian José**, MA '03 (French linguistics), has started a tenure-track position as Assistant Professor of Linguistics in the Department of Languages, Literatures, and Linguistics at Indiana State University.

**Marie-Line Brunet**, PhD '13 (French literature), will be starting a tenure-track position as Assistant Professor of French at Ball State University this August. She previously taught for three years as Visiting Assistant Professor at Franklin and Marshall College in Pennsylvania.

**Abigail D. Silbert**, BA'13 (Italian), is a senior designer in the Chicago office of digital marketing agency iCrossing. She is also a 3D artist. She previously worked as junior art director at the marketing and advertising company TracyLocke. Silbert lives in Chicago.

Opera singer and renaissance man **Christopher G. Lysack**, BM/BS'00, MM'02, MA'06 (French literature), DM'09, PhD'14 (French literature), has received critical acclaim for his many operatic performances in Germany. Upcoming engagements include roles as Cavardossi in *Tosca* and Hans in *The Bartered Bride* at Theater Aachen, and the title role in Benjamin Britten's *Peter Grimes* at Theater Bremen. He is currently living in Aachen, Germany.

## Félicitations and congratulazioni! Departmental awards 2016

We are proud of this year's French and Italian award winners, listed below. They are all undergraduate students unless otherwise indicated. We extend a warm thank-you to all the donors who make these prizes possible!

**Lander MacClintock Memorial Award**  
Sara Dallavalle (PhD Student)

**Quentin M. Hope Memorial Award**  
Dana Vanderburgh

**Charlotte F. Gerrard Memorial Prize**  
Emma Johnson

**Mary V. Lèbano Memorial Prize**  
Laura Rastl

**Peter Cannings Memorial Prize**  
Kelly Kasper-Cushman (PhD student)

**Mario & Katrina Vangeli Memorial Award**  
Hannah Henderson

**Grace P. Young Awards**  
Megan Dyer  
Jordan Lenchitz  
Helen Grace Shymanski  
Sarah Kay Hurst (PhD student)  
Amanda Vredenburgh (PhD student)

**John K. Hyde Award**  
Sophia Saliby

**Kuersteiner Memorial Prize**  
Shannon McPike

**Eneria Ruggeri Memorial Awards**  
Jenica Brown  
Isabella Magni (PhD student)

**Carol Ann Brush Hofstadter Memorial Scholarships**  
Matthew Galeski  
Cecilia Theberge

**Gamma Kappa Alpha Italian Honor Society**  
Jenica Brown

Emily Ellis  
Jacqueline Hassenplug  
Rebecca Nash  
Gabiella Di Palma  
Laura Rastl  
Jessica True

**Pi Delta Phi French Honor Society**  
Erika Eads  
Nicole M. Ehleringer  
Adam C. Kiefer  
Jad Labban  
Eligh Langlais  
Jordan Lenchitz  
Shannon McPike  
Anne-Therese Ryan  
Helen Grace Shymanski  
Angela Tauber  
Amelia Marie Weller

**French Associate Instructor Awards**  
Flavien Falantin (PhD student)  
Amanda Vredenburgh (MA student)

**Italian Associate Instructor Awards**  
Sara Dallavalle (PhD student)  
Letizia Montroni (PhD student)

**Trustees Teaching Award**  
Professor Alison Calhoun



New members are inducted into the Gamma Kappa Alpha Italian Honor Society (left to right): Laura Rastl, Jessica True, Gabiella Di Palma, Rebecca Nash, and Emily Ellis. Photo: Lisa Huffman.

The newly renovated royal palace of Carditello in Campania, Italy, featured in *Bella e perduta*. Photo: Calamo, from carditello.wordpress.com.



## Top new films in French

***Dheepan*** by Jacques Audiard, engages with the topical themes of civil war, violence and immigration through the beautifully told story of its protagonist, a former Sri Lankan Tamil Tiger who flees to France under a new name, Dheepan, and his pretend family. While they try to integrate into the French society where they seek peace and a semblance of normalcy, another set of challenges, both past and present, await him, his new wife and daughter. Winner of the Palme d'Or at Cannes, 2015.

***Guibord s'en va-t-en guerre*** by Philippe Falardeau is a political comedy from the French-Canadian director of *Monsieur Lazhare* (2011 Best Foreign Language Film nominee). An ineffectual politician from the fictional region of "la belle province" must ultimately decide whether the country will engage in a foreign war. A funny, satirical, and often "dérangeant" movie.

***Ma Loute*** by Bruno Dumont is set in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century in the community of Slack Bay. This comedy relies on the premise of a mystery (the investigation into a series of disappearances) only to draw us deeper into the director's favorite themes: social satire, androgyny, inbreeding, and even cannibalism. Splendidly acted by such veterans of the French screen as Fabrice Luchini and Juliette Binoche.

***Juste la fin du monde*** by Xavier Dolan tells the story of a writer who returns to his small home town to settle long-standing family issues prior to his impending death. The cast includes a hit parade of French actors familiar to Hollywood including Vincent Cassel, Marion Cotillard, and Gaspard Ulliel. Winner of the Grand Prize of the Jury at Cannes, 2016.

***Fatima*** by Philippe Faucon revolves around a single Maghrebi mother who has lived her life in France. After a serious accident that leaves her impaired, she writes letters to her teenage French-born children in Arabic to express emotions and parts of her identity that she never before shared. The film is reminiscent of Mariyama Bâ's classic "Une si longue lettre."

-- Vincent Bouchard, Brett Bowles, Oana Panaïté

## Top new films in Italian

***Sangue del mio sangue*** by Marco Bellocchio. This haunting film is comprised of two tales that have the setting of the convent of Bobbio in common. In the 17th century, a group of priests tries to prove that a young nun is doing Satan's work, as the convent becomes heavy with psychological tension. In the present, a Russian millionaire seeks to turn the convent into a luxury hotel but must first grapple with its reigning inhabitant, the corrupt vampire Count Basta.

***Bella e perduta*** by Pietro Marcello. The servant Pulcinella – named after the classic masked figure from Commedia dell'arte – is sent from heaven to lead a buffalo calf from the former royal palace of Carditello in Campania to a new owner. The calf, Sarchiapone, is anthropomorphized and narrates the journey, which accentuates the beauty of the Italian countryside but also the physical ruin modernization leaves behind.

***Non essere cattivo*** by Claudio Caligari. Set in the 1990s, this film focuses on the friendship between two hard-living young men and their life of nightclubs, luxury cars, alcohol and drugs. When Vittorio pursues a higher calling, will Cesare be left behind? Winner of the Pasinetti Award at the 2015 Venice Film Festival.

***Per amor vostro drama*** by Giuseppe M. Gaudino. Battered wife and mother of three Anna tries to gain some measure of independence from her miserable home life by taking on a job writing cue cards for TV soap opera actors. A handsome TV star seduces her, but happiness is elusive.

***A Bigger Splash*** by Luca Guadagnino. The island idyll of rock star Marianne and her lover Paul is disturbed by the arrival of cynical record producer and old flame Harry, with his newly discovered beautiful young daughter in tow. Tensions rise against the gorgeous background of the volcanic island of Pantelleria. Starring Tilda Swinton, Matthias Schoenaerts, and Ralph Fiennes.

-- Antonio Vitti