



Ponte Santa Maria Nova, Venice

Photo by Didier Descouens via Wikimedia Commons

An eventful year

MASSIMO SCALABRINI

An External Review, faculty promotions, and international conferences marked a busy academic year in the Department of French and Italian.

What has kept us particularly busy before, during, and after the reviewers' visit was the External Review of our Department, conducted by a committee comprised of four senior scholars, three external and one from IU. The reviewers recognized the academic quality of our three units (French/Francophone Studies, French Linguistics, and Italian Studies), emphasized their well-deserved national and international reputations, and saw a bright future ahead for French and Italian at IU. These words of praise will only strengthen our commitment to the Department's core mission of conducting innovative research, providing rigorous training to our graduate students, teaching the French and Italian languages as well as the riches of French/Francophone and Italian cultures to our undergraduate students, and putting our expertise at the service of the University, the scholarly and professional community, and the broader public in Bloomington and beyond.

The achievements of our faculty are eloquent

testimony of this commitment to excellence. I only have room to mention a few of these achievements and recognitions here. Assistant Professor **Vincent Bouchard** received a New Frontiers in the Arts & Humanities-New Currents award for the workshop "Media and Tertiary Memory" and Professor **Marco Arnaudo** received a New Frontiers of Creativity and Scholarship award for his project on "Narrative Trends in Analog Game Design." Associate Professor **Hall Bjørnstad** was awarded a College Arts and Humanities Institute Fellowship in Spring 2017 for his book project "The Crowning Example: Louis XIV and the Crisis of Royal Exemplarity" and Associate Professor **Nicolas Valazza** received a CAHI/Kinsey Institute Fellowship for 2017-18 for his research on clandestine modernist poetry. **Karolina Serafin** and **Alicia Vitti** were promoted to the rank of Senior Lecturer; **Guillaume Ansart** was promoted to Full Professor; last, but certainly not least, **Andrea Ciccarelli** was named Provost Professor in recognition of his scholarship and teaching.

In the spring of 2017, the Department hosted two major international conferences: the "20th and 21st-Century French and Francophone Studies Colloquium" and the 8th annual symposium on "New Trends in Modern and Contemporary Italian Cinema." Sadly, this year also marked the passing of two faculty members who greatly

contributed to the mission of our Department: Professor Emeritus of French **William Trapnell** and Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Italian **Peter Bondanella**.

We are proud of the accomplishments of our graduate and undergraduate students this year. We had several successful Ph.D. dissertation defenses (**Rodica Frimu** and **Miguel Angel Marquez Martinez** in French Linguistics; **Flavien Falantin** in French/Francophone Studies; **Isabella Magni** and **Marianna Orsi** in Italian Studies); **Carlotta Paltrinieri** (MA'14, Italian) earned a competitive College Dissertation Completion Fellowship; and several of our students secured good academic positions at institutions such as NYU, Tennessee-Knoxville, Butler, Principia College and the Newberry Library. All of our graduate students have benefitted from the work of our new full-time Graduate Student Services Coordinator, Lauren Anderson. Our undergraduates have been awarded prestigious prizes such as the Provost's Award for Undergraduate Research (**Katherine Blake**, BA '16), the College's Palmer Brandon Prize (**Adam Smith**) and the *Société des Professeurs Français et Francophones d'Amérique* Scholarship (**Rebecca Hailperin-Lausch**). Our B.A. graduates have moved on to wonderfully diverse activities, ranging from graduate school to teaching English in France and Italy, from acting to interior design.

Roberto Andò's political cinema comes to Bloomington

ISABEL PIEDMONT-SMITH

Viewers seeking an explanation of the symbolism and meaning in Roberto Andò's recent film *Le Confessioni* instead received ambiguous answers from the cinematic auteur, proving once again that cinema's function is not just telling a narrative or teaching a lesson, but rather asking questions about society. In *Le Confessioni*, the main character is a monk, played by Toni Servillo, who is called upon by the director of the International Monetary Fund to come to a G8 meeting and hear his confession. The IMF director, played by Daniel Auteuil, is found dead the next morning. Does the monk represent our conscience in the face of global market manipulations? Simplicity in the face of complexity? And what of the German finance minister's dog, who after a vicious fit befriends the monk – does he represent the hope of humanity?

Taking such questions from the audience after the film's screening at the IU Cinema, Roberto Andò said yes – all these interpretations can be correct, and many more. Unlike earlier political filmmakers from Italy, Andò does not offer solutions to contemporary problems, but strives to just lay the problems bare, according to Professor **Antonio Vitti**, one of the organizers of the 8th Annual Symposium on New Trends in Modern and Contemporary Italian Cinema. Andò was this year's featured filmmaker for the symposium held April 19-22 on the IU-Bloomington campus and organized, once again, by Professors Vitti and **Andrea Ciccarelli**.

Many of Andò's films are political, and

perhaps the most popular in Italy so far was 2013's *Viva la libertà*, which, according to Ciccarelli, contrasts the professional image-making in politics with the politicians' real intentions. This contrast is also shown in real life, where the stereotypical representation of Italy as a destination for tourists and gourmands rings hollow for many who are struggling economically. *Viva la libertà* won the David di Donatello award and the Italian National Syndicate of Film Journalists award for best screenplay (written by Andò).

Aside from his increasing popularity as a filmmaker, Andò is also known in Italy as a director of operas (including at La Scala), a

for younger scholars like our own graduate students. **Leonardo Cabrini** (MA '17), who will be starting his third year in our program this Fall, gave a paper about how the popular romance films of Raffaello Matarazzo of the late 1940s and early 1950s were reevaluated by critics in the 1970s and upheld as "authentic depictions of the authoritative and masculine family institution," rather than just fluffy melodrama. "I found many scholars that were interested in my research," he said, "and I am still in touch with some professors and grad students with whom I discussed it."

In addition to registration fees, funding for the symposium comes from the Mary-



Roberto Andò filming in October 2012. Courtesy photo.

director of plays, and a short story writer. He was a close friend of the late Italian filmmaker Francesco Rosi, and it is through Rosi that Antonio Vitti learned of Andò and sought him out to invite him to Bloomington. Rosi himself had been scheduled to be the featured director at the annual film symposium in 2015, but he passed away that January.

Six of the scholarly papers given at the conference this year focused on Andò's filmmaking and its ties to literature, art, and the theater. In addition, the symposium schedule included four of Andò's feature films and three documentaries, including one about his mentor, Francesco Rosi. PhD candidate **Lisa Dolasinski**, who presented her own research on dealing with aging in Italian film, said Andò was very accessible during the conference, both at the official Q&A periods and during the nightly receptions.

The opportunities for gathering feedback and planning future collaboration make the annual film symposium important especially

Margaret Barr Koon and Olga Ragusa Funds of the Department, the Vice President for International Affairs, the Media School, and the College Arts and Humanities Institute. Professor Emeritus **Edoardo Lèbano** has also donated generously to support the annual event.

"The symposium has a loyal following," says Dolasinski. "Maintaining continuity each year and creating a welcome opportunity to catch up with colleagues." Since the symposium has been at IU, said Ciccarelli, "we have limited the number of guest speakers, normally only to the director, in order to offer to younger colleagues and graduate students more opportunities to speak."

Vitti is preparing a special issue of his online Italian film journal *Luci e ombre* on Andò's cinema, and he is already getting ready for next year's symposium, which will feature Vincenzo Marra, who has had three prize-winning films at the Venice Film Festival. It promises to be another great conference!

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Department of French and Italian

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Editor Isabel Piedmont-Smith
Designer Isabel Piedmont-Smith

College of Arts and Sciences

Executive Dean Larry D. Singell Jr.
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New adventures in academia: PhD grads moving on

LAUREN ANDERSON

Summer marks the end of another successful school year, adding to the legacy of cultural engagement, pioneering research, and international collaboration that has shaped the Department for over 100 years. The long tradition of academic excellence is carried on through this year's PhD graduates, all of whom will take their polished expertise to other institutions in the upcoming year.

"It will be nice to transfer some of the skills and perhaps try to bring what I thought was good here to there," says **Rodica Frimu** (PhD '17, French Linguistics) as she prepares for her position as an Assistant Professor of French in the Department of Modern Foreign Languages and Literatures at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. There she will teach undergraduate-level French courses and supervise the first two years of coursework in French. Frimu, whose dissertation research focused on error type and detection by second-language learners, feels well-suited for the duties of her new position.

Frimu looks forward to the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead, including the potential to develop a French Linguistics program at the University of Tennessee and to teach linguistics courses in the future. For Frimu, the transition to professional life will be made easier by the coincidence that she is not the only FRIT graduate heading to Knoxville this summer.

Flavien Falantin (PhD '17, French/Francophone Studies) also will move to the University of Tennessee where he has accepted a position as a postdoctoral researcher. "This is a small world," he says, when asked about being hired in the same department as Frimu. Both Frimu and Falantin were

pleased by the coincidence.

Falantin's position will emphasize teaching as well as research, he explains, as he prepares to teach three French courses per semester, including a doctoral seminar. Falantin, whose dissertation focused on the evolving representation of fictional readers primarily in 20th and 21st century texts, plans to use his classes to practice teaching his own research findings. He is pleased with the balance between teaching and research in his new position, as he stresses the importance of not feeling disconnected from student life. Falantin is also looking forward to the possibility of the university sponsoring him to attend a few international conferences. He too maintains an optimistic attitude about the transition from student to professional life.

"I'm pretty good at adapting," he says, confessing that he thinks the most difficult task will be integrating into an existing team. But Falantin has a history of successful adaptation, first moving from his hometown of Reims in France, to Laramie, Wyoming to work towards his M.A. degree, and then to Bloomington to complete his doctoral studies. Falantin looks forward to all of these changes, concluding: "It's not a challenge, I guess its most like an adventure."

Like Falantin, **Jamie Root**, who will complete his PhD in French Linguistics this summer, is full of enthusiasm and excitement as he prepares to enter the professional world. Root will join New York University as a Lecturer in French. His dissertation examines the insertion of English-origin lexical items into Louisiana French. Preparing to take the next step in his career, he reflects on his experience with FRIT, concluding: "It has been a joy to be surrounded by people who feel as passionately about French as I do, and



to while away the hours talking about the most obscure linguistic details."

From the Italian Studies program, **Isabella Magni** (PhD '17) will take her expertise to the Newberry Library in Chicago, IL, where she has secured a position as a Mellon Postdoctoral Scholar in Italian Paleography. In addition to her own research, Magni will assist in the building of a website which will digitize a wide range of Italian manuscripts, as well as serve as a pedagogical guide to improve the use of digital tools in the classroom. The position is a perfect fit for Magni, who has worked for three years as a research assistant on the NEH-funded *Petrarch* project which digitized Petrarch's *Rerum vulgarium fragmenta*, under the supervision of Professor H. Wayne Storey. Her dissertation also studied the representations of the work of Italian Renaissance poet Petrarch, focusing on the new perspectives digital representations can offer.

Magni expresses great excitement for the opportunities and challenges to come in her new position. She most looks forward to the intellectually stimulating and collaborative nature of the postdoc, as well as the traveling, teaching, and presenting opportunities she will have in connection with other major North American archives.

When asked what she will miss most about Bloomington, Magni says she will miss the friends and colleagues she has met along the way, a sentiment expressed by all of this year's graduates. Each graduate, however, has plans for ongoing collaborations with their mentors, colleagues, and professors, and hopes of continuing the connection with FRIT as they make their way in the professional world.



May Commencement 2017. Above: Isabella Magni (PhD'17) with her dissertation advisor, Professor H. Wayne Storey. Left: Our French PhD graduates with their dissertation advisors: Jamie Root, Prof. Kevin Rottet, Prof. Laurent Dekydtspotter, Rodica Frimu, Flavien Falantin, and Prof. Oana Panaïté.

Scholars explore the senses at IUB

LISA HUFFMAN

"The senses—those sources of rapture and anguish, of dream and nightmare, serenity and unease, discovery and perplexity—do not only connect us to the world and to each other. They also ground and shape our efforts to understand ourselves and all that lies beyond as we strain for meaning." Thus Professor **Margaret Gray** eloquently described the theme of the 2017 International Colloquium for 20th and 21st Century French Studies, "Sense and Senses" / "Le Sens et les Sens," held at IU-Bloomington April 6-8. An annual event since 1984 in locations around the US, this conference is the most important gathering of specialists in the field and certainly the largest in North America. This year's over 300 participants came to the Indiana Memorial Union in Bloomington from as far away as South Africa and as close as our own campus.

Over 250 talks comprised nearly 80 panels, with topics ranging from "Negotiating the Boundaries: Agency and Identity in Calixthe Beyala's *Comment cuisiner son mari à l'africaine*"

(**Noëlle Lindstrom**, French/Francophone Studies PhD student) to "L'immigration comique" (**Caroline Fache**, PhD'07, Associate Professor at Davidson College). We were pleased to see some familiar faces such as IU alumnae Fache, **Michèle Schaal** (PhD'12), and **Olga Amarie** (PhD'11). Several graduate students also gave papers as part of a valuable learning experience: **Amanda Vredenburg** (MA'16), **Yuanshuai Cui**, **Flavien Falant** (PhD'17), **Marcel Tchatchou** (MA'17), Lindstrom (MA'14), and **Georgy Khaborovskiy** (MA'12) all participated.

The conference organizing committee was composed of five IU faculty members; **Oana Panaïté**, Margaret Gray, **Eileen Julien**, **Brett Bowles**, and **Vincent Bouchard**, as well as Alexandre Gefen from Paris, founder of the literary research website *Fabula*. Panaïté served as the main conference organizer.



Conference co-organizers Oana Panaïté (left) and Margaret Gray (right) with graduate assistant Georgy Khaborovskiy in front of the Lilly Library, where a special "Sense and the Senses" exhibit was held in April.

Three keynote speakers with differing backgrounds highlighted the event. Patrick Chamoiseau, a Goncourt prize-winning author born in Martinique, chaired several sessions as a plenary speaker and presented a lecture, "Les Histoires ne servent qu'à habiller l'indéchiffrable du

"Explore the Senses" continued on page 7

Our students are amazing! Departmental awards 2017

Lander MacClintock Memorial Award

Jill Owen (PhD student, French/Francophone Studies)

Mary V. Lèbano Memorial Prize

Mitchell Sigmund (BA'17, Italian and English)

Charlotte F. Gerrard Memorial Prize

Courtney Relyea-Spivack (BA'17, French and Theatre)

Albert and Agnes Kuersteiner Memorial Prizes

Karly Murat-Prater
Rebecca Hailperin-Lausch

Peter Cannings Memorial Prize

Jamie Root (PhD student, French Linguistics)

Olga Ragusa Graduate Award

Lucia Gemmani (MA'13, Italian)

Grace P. Young Undergraduate Awards

Em Brewington
Abigail Elston (BA'17, French and Linguistics)
Crystal Leming (BA'17, French, Spanish and Linguistics)

Grace P. Young Graduate Awards

Carly Bahler (MA'13, French linguistics)
Jessica Tindira (MA'15, French/Francophone Studies)

Quentin M. Hope Memorial Award

Emily Tallo (BA'17, Int'l Studies)

Eneria Ruggeri Memorial Award

Carlotta Paltrinieri (MA'14, Italian)

Mario & Katrina Vangeli Memorial Award

Giabella Di Palma (BA'17, Italian and Art History)

4 ~ frit summer 2016

John K. Hyde Award

Julia Vicić

Italian Associate Instructor Award

Leonardo Cabrini (MA'17, Italian)

French Associate Instructor Awards

Leila El-Murr (MA student, French/Francophone Studies)
Jacob Ladyga (MA'16, French/Francophone Studies)

Gamma Kappa Alpha Italian Honor Society

Francisca Figueroa (BA'17, Italian and Individualized Major)
Carmen Henderson (BA'17, International Studies)
Alexandria Heston (BS'17, Informatics)
Kayla Myers
Cari Rice
Benjamin Turney (BA'17, East Asian Lang. & Cultures, Slavics)
Marina Walinski

Pi Delta Phi French Honor Society

Undergraduate Students
Lucas Adams

Stephen Averitt

Aron Barrera Duran
Caroline J. Bedwell
Emory Brunner
Taitum Caggiano
Kaitlynn Rose Cull
Rebecca Hailperin-Lausch
Stephanie Kennedy
Praise Chanmee Kim
Joyce Mannon (BS'17, Neuroscience/Biology)
Karly Murat-Prater
Jason Murner
Nathanael Guy Rollison (BS'17, Neurosci/Bio)
Grace Rushton
Adam Benjamin Smith
Kristen M. Swanson (BS'17, Neurosci/Bio)
Julia Vicić

Graduate Students

Laura A. Demsey (MA'15, French Linguistics)
Loïc Lerme (MA'13, French/Francophone Studies)
Noëlle Lindstrom (MA'14, French/Francophone Studies)



We are pretty proud of our faculty too: Professor Hall Bjørnstad won this year's Trustees Teaching Award

Graduate student award winners (from left): Carly Bahler, Jamie Root, Lucia Gemmani, Carlotta Paltrinieri, Leonardo Cabrini, Jacob Ladyga, Jill Owen, Leila El-Murr, and Jessica Tindira.



Peter Bondanella, 1943-2017

Peter Bondanella, Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Italian Studies, Comparative Literature, and Film Studies at Indiana University, passed away near his home in St. George, Utah on May 28, 2017. He earned a BA in French and Political Science at Davidson College (1966), a Masters in Political Science at Stanford University (1967), and a PhD in Comparative Literature at the University of Oregon (1970). After teaching for a few years at Wayne State University, he joined the faculty of Indiana University in 1972, where he had a remarkable career as a scholar and teacher of Renaissance studies, Italian cinema and culture, and literary theory, until he retired in 2007. Although he published widely on Italian Renaissance literature (including translations), he is best known internationally as a scholarly pioneer in Italian cinema. He began teaching regular courses on Italian cinema in English in the 1970's, when the discipline was not taught in foreign language and culture departments, and his 1983 publication *Italian Cinema: From Neorealism to the Present* became an essential introduction to the field. He published monographs on Federico Fellini, Roberto Rossellini, and Umberto Eco, as well as *The Eternal City: Roman Images in the Modern World* (1987), which was nominated for the Pulitzer Prize for non-fiction.

Among his many honors, Bondanella was inducted into the European Academy of Sciences and Arts in 2009. He educated and mentored three generations of scholars in Italian, Comparative Literature, and Film Studies, and through their publications and teaching, they keep his scholarly and pedagogical inheritance alive. Peter leaves behind his spouse, **Julia Conaway Bondanella**, a scholar of Italian Renaissance literature and Professor Emerita of Italian Studies at Indiana University.

-- Colleen Ryan & Andrea Ciccarelli



William H. Trapnell, 1931-2017

William H. Trapnell, Professor Emeritus of French Literature, passed away on January 10, 2017. He earned a BS from Hampden-Sydney College in Virginia in 1954, an MA in French from Middlebury College in 1962, and a PhD in French from the University of Pittsburgh in 1967. After teaching for two years at Brown University, he joined the faculty of the Department of French & Italian at Indiana University in 1969 and taught at IUB until his retirement in 1997. He was the recipient of several prestigious research fellowships including from the Mellon (1963-65), Fulbright (1965-66) and Lilly (1986-87) foundations.

Trapnell was a distinguished scholar of the French and British Enlightenment. One of his main research interests was the great 18th-century playwright and novelist Marivaux. His pioneering dissertation explored the relations between Marivaux's journalistic works, novels, and theater. Later in his career, he authored another major study on the canonical playwright, *Eavesdropping in Marivaux* (1987). Trapnell also made key contributions to Voltaire studies: *Voltaire and his Portable Dictionary* (1972), *Voltaire and the Eucharist* (1981), *Christ and his "Associates" in Voltairean Polemic: An Assault on the Trinity and the two Natures* (1982). And he published two important books illustrating his interest in Enlightenment philosophy on both sides of the Channel, *The Treatment of Christian Doctrine by Philosophers of the Natural Light from Descartes to Berkeley* (1988), and a study on a little-known English theologian, *Thomas Woolston, Madman and Deist?* (1994). A rich and fruitful career indeed.



-- Guillaume Ansart



Montréal, the second largest French-speaking city in the world, is celebrating its 375th anniversary this year. Professor Julie Auger was there for the beginning of the celebrations and sent this photo of one of the Géants de Nantes – large wooden marionettes made by the Royal de Luxe company in Nantes, in Bretagne (France).

We are pleased to announce that the archives of Italian filmmaker Giuseppe De Santis (1917-1997) are coming to the IU Lilly Library. De Santis is known for his award-winning neorealist films of the 1940s and 50s through which he pushed for social reform. This treasure trove of screenplays, manuscripts, research notes, and photographs comes to IU from Wake Forest University through the help of Professor Antonio Vitti.



In memoriam photos: Bondanella in 1996 and Trapnell in 1978. Courtesy of the IU Archives.

Marco Arnaudo's recent research involves tabletop gaming and conflict simulation through wargaming. He is the author of a book about board gaming and narratology that was developed with the help of a New Frontiers of Creativity and Scholarship grant and has recently been submitted to McFarland Press. Arnaudo routinely teaches classes that use board games to offer his students an interactive experience of the subject matter. Circling back to Italian Studies, Arnaudo is also working on a series of articles about the origins of several Italian adventure comics, and taught a well-enrolled course last Fall on this topic (*fumetti*).

Julie Auger published a survey article on Picard phonology in a volume that also features articles written by two FRIT alumni: Ryan Hendrickson (PhD '14) and Michael Dow (PhD '14). Their articles are based on the dissertations devoted to Picard phonetics and phonology that Hendrickson and Dow completed at IU. In addition to continuing to work on her monograph on Picard, Auger is also pursuing her collaboration with Anne-José Villeneuve (PhD '11). They will be presenting their latest research at a conference on endangered language at the University of Cambridge in July, and they are working on a book proposal for Routledge Publishers. On a different note, she greatly enjoyed exploring the topic of language and gender this spring, teaching a seminar with 15 highly motivated graduate students.

This past year, Hall Bjørnstad enjoyed the opportunity to share his work on royal exemplarity when invited to St. Gallen, Switzerland and to Charlottesville, VA, and to discuss his work on Pascal in Paris. But most of all he enjoyed serving as advisor for two departmental honors theses by Grace Jewell and Grace Shymanski (BA '17), both related to the work of Albert Camus and both developing from an introductory-level course (F305) on "The Weight of Existence" back in the fall of 2015.

In February, Vincent Bouchard traveled to



Professor Hall Bjørnstad (left) with Grace Shymanski (BA '17) and Professor Brett Bowles. Shymanski wrote two honors theses this year: one in FRIT with Prof. Bjørnstad and one in the History Department with Prof. Bowles, who is an adjunct professor of history and Director of the Institute for European Studies in addition to his French specialization.

Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso for field work for his research project *Éducation et propagande par le film en Haute-Volta*. The trip was enabled through a grant from the College Arts & Humanities Institute and focused on materials held in the Institut Français (former French Cultural Center) and the Institut de recherche pour le développement, and on meetings with twelve well-informed witnesses. During his stay, he also followed the screenings and discussions organized as part of the biennial Panafrican Film and Television Festival of Ouagadougou (Festival panafricain du cinéma et de la télévision de Ouagadougou – FESPACO).

Alison Calhoun designed a new version of the introductory F300 course in the form of a "Theater Workshop" to fit with student interests in theater and performance. With the help of acting coach and French major Courtney Relyea-Spivak (BA'17), students in the Fall 2016 course staged and performed classic French scenes from memory. As a Mosaic Faculty Fellow, Calhoun is also working with a team of faculty members to help the Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education and University Information Technology Services better understand how faculty teach in state-of-the-art classrooms, like the ones in the new building where FRIT is located.

In addition to teaching a new course on French detective fiction and publishing articles on Apollinaire and Darrieussecq, **Margaret Gray** enjoyed the different challenge of co-curating, with PhD candidate Georgy Khabarovskiy (MA '12) a Lilly rare-book exhibit highlighted by a musical performance featuring some of the poems on display. Accompanying the "Sense and the Senses" International Colloquium in 20th and 21st-Century French and Francophone Studies (see article, page 4), the exhibit featured works, such as artists' book, emphasizing the richness of the senses, as well as rare editions and pamphlets by the conference's keynote speaker, distinguished author and "Créolité" activist Patrick Chamoiseau of Martinique.

Kevin Rottet was on sabbatical in spring 2017, during which time he was invited to a conference at UC-Berkeley entitled *The Genesis of French Varieties across North America* where he gave a paper on "Le français louisianais en contexte: perspectives nord-américaines." He also travelled to Swansea, Wales to conclude a collaborative



Professor Vincent Bouchard met with former film projectionists Jean-Pierre Ouédraogo and Charles Ouédraogo in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso (February 2017).

book project, and he gave a talk there entitled "Motion Verbs in Language Contact," an earlier version of which he also presented at the FRIT Student-Faculty Forum in March. Rottet continues his work on the historical lexicography of Louisiana French along with Rudy Professor Emeritus **Albert Valdman**, Marvin Moody (PhD '72), and Tom Klingler (PhD '92), a project funded by an NEH grant.

In the past academic year, **Colleen Ryan** found it very rewarding to teach two Italian literature courses for which she chose some very new, contemporary texts and to teach a course on Italian American culture in literature and film. The latter course included a small play production called "Vinegar and Oil" written by a visiting guest lecturer, Fred Gardaphé (Distinguished Professor at the City University of New York). This summer she is attending an institute on Italian Diaspora Studies at the University of Calabria and gearing up for a new course on Italian and Italian American female writers in the fall.

Nicolas Valazza has given several on-campus lectures in recent months: on Claude Debussy and Symbolism at the Jacobs School of Music, on 19th-century French poetry at the Institute for European Studies and, with the collaboration of PhD candidate Jill Owen, on the etcher Félix Bracquemond at the IU Eskenazi Museum of Art. He was also invited to participate in a conference on Paul Verlaine at Vanderbilt University in March. Valazza published an article on Stéphane Mallarmé in *French Studies* (Oxford), and he is currently writing an introduction and notes to the translations of Verlaine's poetry by Professor Emeritus **Samuel Rosenberg**.

In addition to co-hosting the 8th Annual Italian Film Symposium this spring (see article, page 2), **Antonio Vitti** has been working on a partnership with high schools in Sicily to show films and discuss filmmaking. He worked with IU Media School graduate student Cameron Buckley, who spent his spring break in Italy giving workshops to help students both practice their English and learn about cinema. Vitti himself traveled to Sicily in May, both as an organizer of the international conference on *Il Mediterraneo e gli altri* and to give three more cinema-related workshops at area high schools.

Diane Brodsky Greenspan, BA'69 (French), organized a 50th-anniversary weekend reunion at Lake Lemon outside Bloomington, for students who participated in the 1967-68 overseas study program in Strasbourg. Resident director Professor Roy Leake was fondly remembered and his widow Alice Leake was there to reminisce about old times. Roy and Alice's son, Professor David Leake (IU Department of Computer Science), who was just a child during the Strasbourg year, also joined the party.

Michael McCafferty, BA'71 (French), MA'85 (Linguistics) has been immersed in the Miami-Illinois language, an Eastern Great Lakes Algonquian tongue for many years. In 1999 he discovered in an archive in Quebec a heretofore unknown anonymous French-Illinois dictionary, and then he discovered that the dictionary was composed by the Jesuit missionary Pierre-François Pinet in Chicago in the closing years of the 1600s: Chicago's first book! Lately, he has been working for the Miami tribe in the translation to English of the French half of the three extant Miami-Illinois dictionaries. This dictionary work is part of the tribe's language revitalization program, and it can be viewed online at <http://ilaatawaakani.org>.



IU and Purdue alumni who participated in the Strasbourg program 1967-68 gathered at Lake Lemon earlier this year for a reunion. From left to right: Grace and Marc Bissonnette, Marilyn Bancel (BA'69), Sally Bauman Reynolds, Gayle Mueller Dufour (BA'69), Alice Leake (widow of program director Professor Roy Leake), and Diane Brodsky Greenspan (BA'69).

Michael D. Brand, BA '88 (French & East Asian Studies/Chinese), MA '91 (French Linguistics), retired from the Department of Defense on January 1, 2017 after over 20 years of service (combined military and civilian time). Prior to moving to Maryland to work for the DoD in 2002, Michael spent nine years in Louisiana working as a high school French teacher (at Isidore Newman School in New Orleans) and bilingual tour guide (at The Laura Creole Plantation in Vacherie). Michael & his wife Claudia plan to spend a couple more years in Maryland before moving back to Louisiana to be close to Claudia's family. Michael looks forward to having time for his various interests in retirement, and he would enjoy hearing from some of his former classmates (and teachers) at brand_michael@gmail.com.

Richard I. Culp, BA'94 (French), writes, "I have been managing the Great Beginnings new teacher induction program in Fairfax County Public Schools in Fairfax, Va., for the last 10 years. We hire over 1,500 new teachers each year, and I work closely with our 200 schools and centers, the Virginia Department of Education, and our business partners to make their transition to teaching a smooth and positive one." Culp lives in Fairfax.

Kristen Desmond LeFevre, BAJ'97 with a concentration in French, of North Palm Beach, Fla., has been named associate editor of *The Key*, the official magazine of the collegiate sorority Kappa Kappa Gamma. In addition to her position at *The Key*, LeFevre continues to work as a freelance writer and editor, frequently contributing to magazines such as *Gold Coast*, *Boca Life*, *Jupiter Magazine*, *The Palm Beacher*, and *Palm Beach Illustrated*. For more information about LeFevre, visit

kristendesmondlefevre.contently.com.

Angelique N. Cabral, BA'01 (French and Musical Theater), is an actress, best known for her roles in *The Perfect Family*, *Friends with Benefits*, *Enlisted* and, currently, in the CBS sitcom *Life in Pieces*. She and her husband Jason Osborn are expecting their first child in September. Cabral lives in Los Angeles.

In 2016, **Katherine (Kate) Paesani**, PhD '01 (French Linguistics), was named director of the Center for Advanced Research on Language Acquisition. CARLA is one of the U.S. Department of Education's Title VI National Language Resource Centers, whose role is to improve the nation's capacity to teach and learn foreign languages effectively. Before that, she served as Associate Professor and Director of Basic French Courses at Wayne State University from 2000-2016.

Brian Crawford, MA '03 (French Literature), is a teacher and author living in Seattle, Wa. His first young adult novel, *The Weaver's Scar: For Our Rwanda*, was published in 2013 and won the Skipping Stones Honor Award for International and Multicultural Literature and the YOYA Top Shelf Award for Middle School Fiction. In September 2016, he published a six-novel young adult series through Epic Press about the Holocaust, called *Prisoners of War*. "Aside from writing," he says, "I have been teaching 8th-grade language arts for the past seven years at Seattle Country Day School." In February 2016, he took a group of 15 middle school students to Rwanda, where he has developed a jumelage with a school in Nyamata. "I have truly fallen in love with Rwanda," writes Crawford. His author website is www.authorbrianc.com.

C. Scott Cawthon, MA'14 (French Linguistics), was featured in the Belgian newspaper *La Meuse-Verviers*, in an article entitled "L'Américain amoureux de la langue wallonne" in May. The article describes his interest in the Walloon language with which he "fell in love due to its warmth and conviviality." Cawthon is a PhD candidate in French linguistics who is pursuing a dual doctorate in cultural anthropology.

"Explore the Senses" continued from page 4

monde," which can be viewed on the conference website, <https://ffsense2017.indiana.edu>.

The Canadian film director Philippe Falardeau was present for the screening and question/answer session for his 2015 film *Guibord s'en va-t-en guerre* (*My Internship in Canada*). His award-winning film *Monsieur Lazhar* (six Genie awards and nominated for the Academy Award for Best Foreign Language Film) was also shown as part of the conference.

Sociologist Nathalie Heinich was the featured plenary speaker Friday evening in the Whittenberger Auditorium giving a talk on "Les valeurs de la littérature." She currently serves as director of research at the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, specifically the Research

Center on Arts and Language.

The theme "Sense and the Senses" also provided the context for a Lilly Library exhibit, co-curated by Professor Gray and Georgy Khabarovskiy. The exhibit featured works from the French-speaking world, each providing a glimpse of the myriad ways in which the work of the senses might culminate in literary and artistic expression. "Our books were divided into three main categories," explained Khabarovskiy, "Artists' books (works by 20th century French authors, illustrated by well-known artists); Francophone authors (works by authors from the French-speaking world, excluding France), and works by Patrick Chamoiseau." A concert featuring music by Francis Poulenc was held at the Lilly on April 27 and further illuminated the

Sense and the Senses theme.

Khabarovskiy also assisted with the conference itself, working closely with Professor Panaité to collect abstracts, develop a list of lecture titles, format and proofread the program, and communicate with presenters.

Participant response to the 2017 colloquium was overwhelmingly positive, with many individuals commenting on the warm welcome in Bloomington, the smooth organization, and the quality of the scholarship on display.

IU will be well-represented at next year's conference "Sous les Pavés" at Brown University as well. The study of 20th and 21st century French and Francophone literature and culture continues to be an important part of our programs here at IUB.

DEPARTMENT OF
FRENCH AND ITALIAN

INDIANA UNIVERSITY, BLOOMINGTON
GLOBAL & INTERNATIONAL STUDIES BUILDING
355 NORTH JODAN AVENUE
BLOOMINGTON, IN 47405-1105

Furka Pass, Valais Canton, Switzerland. Photo by Hansueli Krapf via Wikimedia Commons



the year in pictures



Mitchell Sigmund (BA'17) with his mom at the annual departmental graduation reception on May 5. Mitchell wrote a departmental honors thesis on classic and contemporary crime fiction from Northern Italy, under the direction of Professor Marco Arnaudo.



IU President Michael McRobbie visited the overseas study program in Aix-en-Provence in May, where he (right of IU pennant) and his wife Laurie Burns McRobbie (next to him), as well as Vice President for International Affairs David Zaret (left of pennant) chatted with students and program staff over coffee and pain au chocolat.



Who's got talent? Our students, of course! Students sing in French as part of the annual French Club Talent Show in April.

Professor Alison Calhoun (far left) and colleagues in the Mosaic Program discuss active learning strategies in high-tech classrooms in January.

