

FRIT



Castelsardo, Sardinia, Italy

## Letter from the Chair

OANA PANAITÉ



After the last two years, which had been largely defined by remote research, teaching, and learning, the start of academic year 2021-2022 marked a return to “residential” activities, which was met with a healthy mix of enthusiasm and caution. As much as we had longed for our usual way of interacting with each other on campus pathways, in our offices, in our classrooms, as well as in our much longed-for exchange programs in Aix-en-Provence, Bologna, and Florence, we were also wary of the still-present threat of the pandemic. Thus, as we found joy in being able to meet our students face-to-face, an experience that is irreplaceable in the humanities and crucial for our language courses, we continued to connect virtually in some of our courses, day-to-day committee work, and events such as Circolo Italiano, the French Club, or via lectures and symposia. Via Zoom, we were able to host in our classes guest speakers from the US, France, and Italy who brought their expertise on how the French rediscovered the age-old tradition of mask making during the pandemic or on the use of inclusive language in French and Italian.

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion have come into focus this year, as reflected in the work of our dedicated committee and, increasingly, in our pedagogical activities. Resuming on-campus guest lectures and conferences was one of the highlights of this year, with the arrival of guests who presented on topics such as the relevance of Renaissance Studies for our times, Early Modern Italian and French art, language contact in Europe, Quebec French, and the works of Martinican writer Édouard Glissant, plus a guest musician-scholar who delivered a recital of pieces to tell the tale of a 17th-century transgender author. Our annual awards ceremony also capped off the resumption of a wonderful series of FRIT in-person events while allowing us to welcome students, their friends and families to celebrate together the remarkable accomplishments of our undergraduate and graduate students, to recognize the pedagogical excellence of one faculty member with the Trustees Teaching Award, and to salute the irreplaceable work and exemplary dedication of our graduate workers with whom FRIT stood in solidarity during the IUGWC-UE strike.

This summer is a busy season which sees us resuming student activities such as the exciting Hutton Honors College program in Paris and our well-established Florence program. It is also a time when we develop our scholarly projects and attend international conferences, while being thankful for the contributions of each and every one of our extended FRIT family: alumni and current students, both undergraduate and graduate, current and emeriti faculty, and our wonderful staff. And we recognize that none of the numerous events and activities our department has led during this academic year, when the excitement of conducting and sharing research along with teaching and learning in person again was tempered by the complex challenges of the post-pandemic context, would have been possible without the expertise, dedication, and congeniality of our marvelous department administrator, Isabel Piedmont-Smith. Even as we are sad to see Isabel leave our department in pursuit of new endeavors, we extend her our warmest wishes of success and satisfaction in her future plans.



# Welcoming to All: Department Works on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

ISABEL PIEDMONT-SMITH

“*In our everyday teaching, we value and appreciate your diversity.*” So begins the section on Diversity and Inclusion which is now standard in Italian language course syllabi. Recognizing the masculine bias of language, and acknowledging that a binary masculine/feminine construct of nouns and pronouns simply doesn't fit in many cases is essential in French and Italian classrooms. The Italian syllabi place the gendered language in the context of an expanding Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion movement, in the US and in Italy. “Believing that language implies and conceives political values that are historically constructed, and can be changed and contested, they [feminist and LGBTQ+ groups in Italy] are introducing new linguistic forms that everybody is encouraged to use.”

Faculty, staff, and students in FRIT have actively participated in Indiana University's DEI efforts on many levels, from the literature, film, and other cultural sources discussed in classes to the way departmental decisions are made and guidelines are written.

In April 2022, Italian doctoral student Lucia Casiraghi (MA '21) took the initiative to organize a virtual event about inclusive language for French and Italian with Charlotte Prieu (doctoral candidate, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign) and Professor Vera Gheno (University of Florence). The workshop, entitled “Questions of Gender in Gendered Languages: the Case of Contemporary French and Italian,” was well-received by FRIT graduate students and attracted educators from across IU.

## A New FRIT Committee

On April 20, 2020, the Department officially added a Diversity and Inclusion Committee composed of faculty and students as an official standing committee in its governance

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### Department of French and Italian

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document. During its first year, the committee was chaired by Dr. Karolina Serafin, Senior Lecturer in Italian and Director of Language Instruction in Italian, and its first order of business was to draft a departmental value statement on diversity and inclusion. The statement is found on the [FRIT website](http://FRIT website), along with our mission statement, and states “It is our ultimate goal to create a working and learning environment where people of diverse gender identities, sexualities, ethnicities, origins, religions, abilities and socio-economic status feel welcomed and supported in their personal and academic development and growth.”

In addition to the departmental value statement, the committee drafted a job prompt that all faculty job applicants must now address as part of their application. The text spells out the Department's values and asks applicants to submit a brief diversity statement and “provide specific examples that demonstrate your commitment and ability to engage with issues of diversity and inclusion, while also discussing your plans to meet and enhance our diversity goals.”

In collaboration with the IU Health Center's Counseling and Psychological Services, the committee organized a workshop for graduate students dedicated to inclusive pedagogy and writing the diversity statement that will be required of our own graduate students when they go on the job market. As mentioned above, the Italian language program revised the language and format of their syllabi to make them more inclusive. Associate Instructor Giorgio Losi (MA '19) drafted the statement on pronouns and gender in Italian language. The French program also added a section on gender-neutral pronouns to their syllabi.

In 2021-22, the Diversity and Inclusion Committee, chaired by Professor Colleen Ryan, examined and discussed the way service assignments are distributed in the Department,

with the aims of fair distribution and not overburdening faculty members and students from underrepresented groups. The committee also discussed visible and invisible labor, particularly since the start of the Covid-19 era. The committee also discussed ways they might be able to augment the participation of diverse and underrepresented students in study abroad experiences.

At their last meeting of the academic year, the Committee began a conversation about department-level climate and “belonging.” Professor Ryan reports that they discussed questions such as: How can we reduce the challenges or barriers that faculty and students of color and other minority groups



The Black Lives Matter mural on Jordan Avenue (now renamed Eagleson Avenue) in July 2021. The mural, located on the street outside the Neal Marshall-Black Culture Center, was the brainchild of students Joa'Quinn Griffin and Tiera Howleit. Photo by James Brosher.

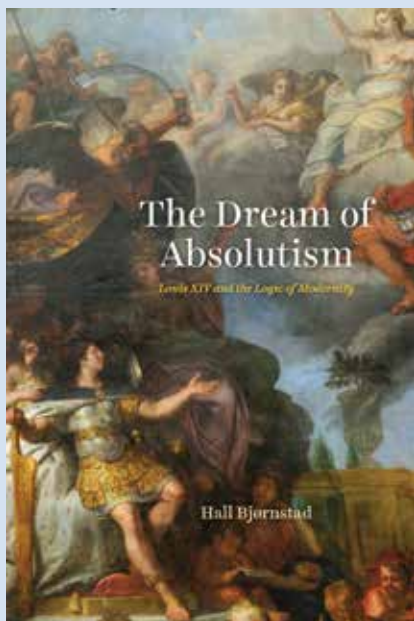
experience in developing a sense of belonging and in making academic and professional progress?

## Courses Include a Diversity of Perspectives

Although FRIT courses have long included source materials and perspectives outside the white European male tradition, faculty members have renewed their emphasis on bringing diverse voices to the study of Italian, French, and Francophone cultures. In Spring 2021, Dr. Serafin invited several guest speakers to participate in her M463 course “New Italian Identities,” which ex-



When **Hall Bjørnstad** joined the department 13 years ago, the illustration on the poster for his job talk was Charles Le Brun's painting *Le Roi gouverne par lui-même*, 1661. Bjørnstad reports that his project on political absolutism has been much slower in coming together than he expected back then, but that the pleasure of seeing the book published was all the greater when it finally happened last fall. The illustration on the cover of *The Dream of Absolutism: Louis XIV and the Logic of Modernity* (University of Chicago Press, October 2021) remains the same painting that illustrated the project 13 years ago.



Professor Hall Bjørnstad's 2021 book.

**Alison Calhoun** was immensely gratified to share her work internationally, traveling to Dublin, Ireland, for the Renaissance Society of America conference, where she met up with colleagues including Kathryn Bastin (PhD '16), and to Oxford, England, where she gave two talks on her current book project. Professor Calhoun was also elated to again direct the Hutton Honors College's Paris program, which she designed, after a COVID hiatus the last two years. She took 20 Hutton students for a two-week stint in Paris this past May, after an 8-week preparatory class on campus entitled "Parisian Spaces." The IU students proved motivated and showed great stamina as this year's itinerary was particularly packed, including a first-time food tour of Saint-Germain-des-Prés. (See photo page 8.)

**Margot Gray's** monograph *Stolen Limelight: Gender, Display and Displacement in Modern Fiction in French* was published this summer by the University of Wales Press; an article on the impact of new media on the ways we read Proust also appeared. She has enjoyed teaching two new courses recently, including a team-teaching experience with "French Conversational Practice" that – thanks to the daring

innovation of team member Erin Stigers (PhD candidate in French Linguistics) – drew on the popular French TV series *Dix Pour Cent* (*Call My Agent*).

At the bi-annual Modern Language Association Summer Symposium, held mostly in person after the COVID-19 hiatus, in Glasgow, Scotland, June 2-4, 2022, Gray presented in a panel entitled "Albert Camus and the Problem of Hospitality" a talk dealing with "Languages of Hospitality in Camus' 'L'Hôte' ('The Guest')." The fascinating session featured an unexpected guest speaker – Camus himself, whose 1957 Nobel Prize acceptance award was played in closing and provided much food for thought and discussion in connection with the other three talks.

Also at the MLA Summer Symposium, **Oana Panaité** delivered a paper on "Glissant's Generosity – A Hospitality without Ethics." Panaité will end her term as President of the Conseil International d'Études Francophones after three unusual years which saw the nearly 40-year-old professional association cancel its annual congress (in 2020), hold its first virtual congress (in 2021), and host its first hybrid congress in 2022 (organized in person in Trento, Italy, and via Zoom, June 20-26, 2022). In both the 2021 and 2022 meetings, IU students and alumni participated as presenters (Cristina Robu [MA '17], Antonio Marvasi [MA'20]), panel chair (Amanda



Left to right: Mohammed Hirchi (PhD '00), current doctoral student Antonio Marvasi (MA '20), Amanda Vredenburg (PhD '20), Mary Vogl (PhD '98), and Caroline Fache (PhD '07) at the Conseil Internationale d'Études Francophones (CIÉF) annual congress in Trento, Italy, June 2022.

Vredenburg, PhD '20), and, most importantly, as assistants to the president who made the logistics of the events possible, (Renata Uzzell [PhD '21], assistant from 2020 to 2022, and Victoria Lagrange [PhD '22], assistant for the 2021 congress). Caroline Fache (PhD '07) has been elected to the position of Vice-President of the CIÉF, with her term starting in July 2022. See photo above.

**Colleen Ryan** taught a new 300-level course in Spring 2022 called "Italian Slow Tour," which was "a sheer delight and interdisciplinary adventure, thanks to the generous access to archives and presence of the Turisti per caso television personalities," namely Syusy Blady, Patrizio Roversi and Zoe Roversi Giusti. With the innovative ideas and pedagogical creativity of PhD students Nicolò Salmaso (MA '20) and Lucia Casiraghi (MA '21), Ryan led the class on a sustainable tour through Italy with eco-tourism and arts, literature and cinema in focus. The course culminated with the students' original Italian-language slow tour videos of Bloomington and an in-person interview/lesson with Turisti per caso host Syusy Blady.

**Massimo Scalabrini** published a book titled *Commedia e civiltà: Dinamiche anticonflittuali nella letteratura italiana del Cinquecento* (Ravenna: Longo, April 2022). The book discusses how the values of conversation, decorum and moderation—all inherited from Greco-Latin antiquity—became instruments of conflict prevention, containment and resolution in key genres and authors of Renaissance literature.

Becoming the first to hold this new title in the Department, **Karolina Serafin** was promoted from Senior Lecturer to Teaching Professor effective July 1, 2022. She was also honored with the 2022 Kathy O. Smith and Morley Career Distinguished Teaching Award from the College of Arts and Sciences.

**Barbara Vance** and doctoral students Scott Evans (MA '17) and Chase Tiffany (MA '19) co-authored a paper entitled "Le pronom ON et les systèmes pronominaux de l'ancien français et l'ancien Occitan," which was presented by Vance and Evans at the conference *Diachro X* sponsored at the Sorbonne by the Société Internationale de Diachronie de Français in June.



Professor Colleen Ryan (left) participated in the Journal of Italian Cinema and Media Studies international conference in Rome in June 2022, where she met (left to right) Federico Paccioni (PhD '10), who is currently associate professor and the Sebastian Paul and Marybelle Musco Chair in Italian at Chapman University, as well as FRIT doctoral students Lucia Casiraghi and Nicolò Salmaso.

# From Migrant Anxieties to Cross-Dressing Clergy

Guest Speakers Animate and Educate

ISABEL PIEDMONT-SMITH

**A**fter two and a half semesters when guest speaker interactions only occurred via Zoom, the Department was excited to host a full schedule of in-person lectures by visitors from far and wide in 2021-22. Here is just a sample of the FRIT guests who came to share their research, creative ideas, scholarly theories, and energy with graduate students, faculty, and the public at IUB this past year.

On October 26, 2021, the beautiful Grand Hall in the newly renovated Maxwell Hall was the location of a mini symposium on early modern French painting organized by Professor Hall Bjørnstad.

Under the heading “Thinking with Early Modern Painting: Self-Awareness, Bodies, Rhetoric” the event proposed a reconsideration of the enigmatic work of Georges de La Tour (1593-1652), guided by the eminent specialists Dalia Judovitz (Emory University) and Richard Neer (University of Chicago). See one of the La Tour paintings discussed during the symposium above right.

A few days later, the Department hosted Áine O’Healy, Professor of Italian at Loyola Marymount

University in Los Angeles. Her book *Migrant Anxieties: Italian Cinema in a Transnational Frame* (Indiana University Press, 2019) was a primary resource for “Migration/Mediterranean/Italy,” an interdisciplinary Italian film course taught by Professor Colleen Ryan in Fall 2021. O’Healy gave a lesson in this course on the subject of adolescents and children in contemporary Italian cinema of migration. She later gave a public lecture, titled: “Italian/Not Italian: Italy through the Lens of ‘Second-Generation’ Filmmakers. An Exploration of Contemporary Transnational Identities on Screen.”

In February 2022, Professor Oana Panaïté, with assistance from Comparative Literature doctoral candidate Julie LeHegar, organized a visit by the French filmmaker, afrofeminist, activist, and scholar Amandine Gay, and her partner in the Bras de Fer production company, Enrico Bartolucci. The three-day visit included a showing of Gay’s documentary *Speak Up* (2017), a series of interviews with Black women living in Francophone Europe; participation in two courses; a master class; and a public lecture entitled “Practicing Intersectionality and Being Actively

Antiracist: Working towards equality and social justice is a dirty job - are you still up for it?”

Alumna Anne-José Villeneuve (PhD ’11, French Linguistics) returned to campus to participate in a French linguistics graduate seminar and give a public lecture in March. Her interactions with current graduate students showed them “what it’s like on the other side” of getting the PhD, said Corentin Mazet (MA ’22, French Linguistics). Villeneuve discussed her career path as well as her sociolinguistic research, through which she “aims to raise awareness of the con-

nections between language, marginalization and social justice” (according to her own short biographical sketch).

The towering literary and philosophical work, as well as the cultural and political impact, of Martinican author [Édouard Glissant](#) (1928-2011) were the focus of a semester-long reading group this past spring, organized by Professor Anke Birkenmaier (Spanish and Portuguese) and Oana Panaïté under the aegis of the Center for Theoretical Inquiry in the Humanities. The weekly meetings of the group culminated in a two-day symposium held April 8-9 which featured guest speakers John Drabinski (University of Maryland), Adlai H. Murdoch (Tufts University), Yolanda Martinez-San Miguel (University of Miami), and Silvio Torres-Saillant (Syracuse University). The hybrid (in-person/Zoom) event occasioned rich and stimulating discussions about Glissant, whose works cover virtually all genres and forms, from lyrical poetry to scholarly studies, from historical and experimental fiction to philosophical essays and political manifestos, and who engaged with topics as enduring and urgent as slavery, racism, colonialism, creolization, “Relation,” and the “chaos-world.” Following the event, a peer-reviewed issue of the *Journal of Francophone Philosophy* with contributions from IU and guest scholars is in preparation.

Our final departmental guest this academic year was Heidi Tsai, an alumna of the Jacobs School of Music who currently resides in France. Professor Alison Calhoun was able to take advantage of Dr. Tsai’s tour of the United States and invited her to Bloomington. Tsai presented a lecture recital program of 17th-century French harpsichord music and harpsichord transcriptions. Music on the program included Lully, Chambonnières, d’Anglebert, Messangeau, Caix d’Hervelois, Barrière, Forqueray, and Couperin. Tsai explained the history and scandal surrounding the pieces she played, often related to the cross-dressing Abbott François-Timoléon de Choisy, whose image was projected behind her.



Georges de la Tour, *The Penitent Magdalen*, 1640 (Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York)



Dr. Heidi Tsai performing a lecture recital program of 17th-century French harpsichord music at the IU Jacobs School of Music. An image of Abbott François-Timoléon de Choisy is behind her.

## Editor’s Note

This is my last alumni newsletter for the Department of French and Italian since I will be leaving my position as Department Administrator in August. I started in the Department in January 1996 as Graduate Secretary, moving to the Department Administrator position in July 1998. During my time in FRIT, I have had the pleasure to work with a friendly and dedicated group of faculty members (which itself has evolved over time) and countless graduate students from all parts of the US, as well as Italy, France, and several other nations. I have learned about their cultures and scholarly pursuits as I guided them through the IU bureaucracy and ensured that

employees were paid, students received their fellowships, guest speakers had hotel rooms, courses were scheduled, bills were paid, etc. To say I have worn many hats is an understatement, especially since there were months, in particular during the last few years, when one or both of our support staff positions were unfilled.

When I began in the Department, I was the same age as many graduate students, participating in the *TrueVers* poetry journal and attending



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In 2009, **Marilyn K. Rahilly** (BA '71, French and Italian), of Reston, Va., retired from the US Department of Education, where she worked as an English language program specialist. She earned an MA in Bilingual Education from the University of Texas at San Antonio and a PhD in Multicultural-Multilingual Education from George Mason University. In 2017, she was awarded a Fulbright scholarship to Taiwan, and she now teaches English as a Second Language as an adjunct professor at community colleges and universities in the Washington, DC area.

VISTA Wealth Strategies, a provider of financial planning and wealth management services, announced that **Judy (Lippman) Redpath** (BA '72, French) has been named to Forbes' 2022 Best-in-State Women Advisors. Redpath founded VISTA in 2006 to provide an independent approach to financial planning and wealth management. She specializes in working with entrepreneurs, small business owners, and professionals and their families, overseeing family finances, and focusing on the accumulation, distribution, preservation, and strategic transfer of wealth. Redpath lives in Herndon, Va.

**Ed Bouquet** (MAT '75, French) recently retired from forty years of teaching French in private schools, mostly at Eaglebrook School in Deerfield, Mass., where he also served as Assistant Librarian and coached several sports. Staying active with his own sports, volunteer work, and a local French conversation group, he still has cousins in France. During one of his trips there he was made "Honorary Citizen" of France in his grandfather's village in Lorraine. He resides in Holyoke, Mass.

*How Lovely Are Thy Branches* by **Lillian Sizemore** (BA '80, Italian and Fine Arts) an 89-foot diameter temporary walking labyrinth installation constructed from recycled holiday tree branches, was on display at Olbrich Park in Madison, Wis., from Jan. 30 until Feb. 28, 2022. A native Midwesterner, Sizemore brought a lifetime of creative engagement to this public art project combining studies in geometry, mandalas, labyrinths, and garden design. Sizemore participated in the overseas program at the University of Bologna while an IU student, and over the past 25 years she has studied mosaic techniques with maestri from around the world. From 2013–16, Sizemore participated in the postgraduate research program at the Prince's Foundation School of Traditional Arts in London, with a focus on translating Gino Severini's mosaic pedagogy. Working in collage, watercolor, and mixed-media mosaic she creates dynamic works designed for intimate observation and deep reflection. Sizemore is a specialist in mid-century mosaics, and her essays have been published in a number of international magazines.



In June 2022, a contingent of former and current FRIT members met at the international conference Les français d'ici in Chicoutimi, Quebec and took a short excursion to nearby Lac Clair, Saguenay. Back row: Professor Julie Auger (formerly in FRIT, currently at the University of Montreal), Professor Kevin Rottet, Tom Klingler (PhD '92, associate professor at Tulane University), Professor Jeff Lamontagne. Front row: Anne-José Villeneuve (PhD '11, associate professor at the University of Alberta), Laura Demsey (PhD '22, teaching associate professor at UNC-Chapel Hill), and Kai Owens (MA student, French linguistics).

She is the owner of [Lillian Sizemore Design](#) and resides in Madison, Wis.

"I spent the years between 1977 and 1983 as a student of French in the Department of French and Italian at IU after having met Prof. Mark Musa on a beach in Pollensa, Spain," writes **W. Hugh Miller** (MA '82, French). He continues that, after completing the MA and a few additional years as a student, "I returned home to South Africa and have not been able to return to the USA since. In the time since returning to my homeland, much has happened on the historical front, with the arrival of Nelson Mandela as the new president, and a whole new era in this country. I have taught French, Russian, and my home language, Afrikaans, at university and high-school level. I am writing this with the purpose of recording my deep, abiding love for the many professors under whose wonderful guidance I spent my fruitful years at IU. The most notable, whom I carry in my heart, are Professor Samuel Rosenberg; both Professors Carr, with a special place in my heart for Diana Guiragossian-Carr; Prof. John Hyde; and Emile Snyder. I was saddened to read of Sam Rosenberg's passing. He was a gentle and loving soul who shaped my academic life in many ways, as I shared with him a love of Medieval French."

**Elizabeth Caulfield Felt** (BA '88, French & English), Senior Lecturer at the University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point, has written two novels: *Syncopation: A Memoir of Adele Hugo* is about Victor Hugo's scandalous daughter. *Wilde Wagers* is a romance-mystery-farce featuring Oscar Wilde.

In August 2021, **Jessica (Proctor) Barth** (BA '91, French and English) joined MultiCare

Health System as its senior health system counsel. MultiCare is a nonprofit health care organization based in Tacoma, Wash. Barth has previously held positions with the law firm Faegre Drinker and with Eskenazi Health in Indianapolis, as an adjunct professor at the IU Maurer School of Law, and as law clerk for the Hon. Bruce Selya in the U.S. Court of Appeals, First Circuit. She holds a JD degree summa cum laude from the Maurer School of Law at IU Bloomington.

**Seth J. Gillihan** (BA '97, French and Biology) is the author of *Cognitive Behavioral Therapy Made Simple: 10 Strategies for Managing Anxiety, Depression, Anger, Panic, and Worry*. The book delivers a simplified approach to learning the most essential parts of cognitive behavioral therapy and applying them to your life. It offers explanations of 10 essential CBT principles and helpful self-evaluations to keep you on track. Gillihan completed a doctorate in psychology at the University of Pennsylvania. He is a licensed psychologist and the author of multiple books on mindfulness and CBT, Head of Therapy with the self-therapy app Bloom, and host of the Think Act Be podcast. He was a full-time faculty member at the University of Pennsylvania from 2008 to 2012, and taught in the psychology department at Haverford College from 2012–2015. He has been in private practice since 2012 and lives in Ardmore, Pa.

**Brian T. Crawford** (MA '03, French and Germanic Studies) is a founding member of the Downtown School, an independent high school founded in Seattle in 2018. He currently

*"Alumni Notebook" continued on page 7*

# Celebrating Student Success: Awards, Scholarships, and Degrees

ISABEL PIEDMONT-SMITH

*The smell of coffee, the sight of beaming students and parents, and the verbal praises of faculty members* for their students' perseverance and outstanding work all pointed to one fact: We were so glad to have our annual awards ceremony in person once again after a 2-year COVID-induced hiatus. It was our last chance to use the University Club as it is currently conceived, since the Club will be moving out of the Indiana Memorial Union this summer. In this warm setting, Ruth N. Halls Professor Oana Panaité, who has been department chair since January 1, 2020, was finally able to host our annual ceremony in person. The list of awards is below.

The Department is very grateful to its alumni who support our awards with their donations, either to specific, named funds or to the French and Italian Enrichment Fund at the IU Foundation. Especially during these difficult pandemic times, awards mean so much to our students who always amaze us with their skills and their passion for Italian, French, and Francophone cultures.

We also take this opportunity to congratulate students who graduated with BA, MA, or PhD degrees this year after slogging through pandemic-induced Zoom classes (as students and/or as Associate Instructors). Nine French majors and three Italian majors graduated in Spring or Summer 2022, while five students earned their MA degrees, and four students completed the PhD (or will do so this summer). Despite a difficult job market for faculty positions, two of our new PhD graduates will begin full-time faculty jobs in Fall 2022: Victoria Lagrange at Kennesaw State University in Georgia (in media studies) and Cristina Robu at St. Lawrence University (New York). Laura Demsey has already been employed for a year as a teaching associate professor at the University of North Carolina (Chapel Hill), as was reported in these pages last year.

## Undergraduate Merit Awards

- **Lilia Brunetti** – Albert and Agnes Kuersteiner Memorial Prize
- **Joy Chang** (BS '22, Accounting & Digital Technology Mgmt.) – Quentin M. Hope Memorial Award
- **Veronica Coffey** – Eneria Ruggeri Award
- **Charles Connon** – Grace P. Young Award
- **Cadyn Cox** – Grace P. Young Award
- **Emma Hand** – Grace P. Young Award
- **Alexandra Lucas** – Grace P. Young Award

Undergraduate award recipients: Front row - Anoosha Sri, Yakira Rupenthal, Alexandra Lucas, Miranda Yeomans, Megan Waters, Joy Chang, Lilia Brunetti. Back row - Cadyn Cox, Imari Walker, Erica Goldsworthy (Gamma Kappa Alpha inductee)



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Graduate student and Associate Instructor award recipients: Ludovic Mompelat, Lee Killey, Lucia Casiraghi, Dezirae Shukla, Emily Cain, Alvise Stefani, and Giorgio Losi.

- **Anne Noble** – Edoardo A. Lèbano Memorial Award
- **Payton Romans** – Lander MacClintock Memorial Award
- **Anoosha Sri** (BS '22, Neuroscience & Psychology) – Quentin M. Hope Memorial Award
- **Imari Walker** – Albert and Agnes Kuersteiner Memorial Prize
- **Megan Waters** (BA '22, French & Int'l Studies) – Grace P. Young Award
- **Miranda Yeomans** (BA '22, Political Science) – John K. Hyde Award

## Graduate Merit Awards

- **Lucia Casiraghi** (MA '21, Italian) – Eneria Ruggeri Graduate Award and Graduate Student Service Award
- **Lee Killey** (MA '21, French Linguistics) – Graduate Student Service Award
- **Ludovic Mompelat** (MA '19, French Linguistics) – Peter Cannings Memorial Prize
- **Dezirae Shukla** – Charlotte F. Gerrard Memorial Prize
- **Alvise Stefani** (MA '20, Italian) – Olga Ragusa Graduate Award
- **Chase Tiffany** (MA '19, French Linguistics) – Grace P. Young Award

## Overseas Study Scholarships

- **Veronica Coffey** – Carol Ann Brush Hofstadter Memorial Scholarship (Bologna)
- **Hope Gerber** – Marjorie & Francis Gravit Scholarship (Paris)
- **Bruno Lopes** – Carol Ann Brush Hofstadter Memorial Scholarship (Bologna)
- **Yakira Rupenthal** – Joel C. Walz Scholarship (Aix-en-Provence)
- **Madeleine Thurin** – John K. Hyde Scholarship (Toulouse internship)
- **Hannah Walker** – Carol Ann Brush Hofstadter Memorial Scholarship (Bologna)
- **Imari Walker** – Mayrene Bentley Scholarship (Paris)

## Graduate Fellowships

- **Pantalea Mazzitello** – College of Arts & Sciences Dissertation Fellowship
- **Evie Munier** – College of Arts & Sciences Dissertation Fellowship

## Teaching Awards

- **Emily Cain** (MA '22, French Instruction) – French Associate Instructor award
- **Giorgio Losi** (MA '19, Italian) – Italian Associate Instructor award
- **Ludovic Mompelat** (MA '19, French Linguistics) – French Associate Instructor award
- **Dezirae Shukla** – French Associate Instructor award
- **Colleen Ryan** – Trustees Teaching Award



# Report from Aix

KELLY SAX

COVID did not stop twenty-three intrepid students from venturing abroad to Aix-en-Provence with me as Resident Director this past spring semester. Showing the required *pass sanitaire* (in the form of a QR code on one's phone) to enter restaurants, theaters, museums and cinemas became part of daily life which in other ways felt close to normal compared to the US. Still, outside of regular classes, outdoor activities were privileged this year. These included a guided tour of Aix's sumptuous *hôtels particuliers*, pétanque lessons with a local pro, a hike along the Côte Bleue, a tour of the well-preserved Gallo-Roman site Glanum, and a beautiful sunset behind the famous Pont du Gard roman aqueduct. Students in my "La Provence à Travers le Cinéma" class visited the Centre de Documentation Historique sur l'Algérie where they spoke with local *pieds noirs* about their memories of life in Algeria and subsequent flight to France when Algerian independence was declared in 1962. An exceptionally warm spring allowed for a delicious and fun indoor cheese tasting towards the end of the semester, doors and windows wide open. In retrospect, in what way did COVID most impact the study abroad experience? Probably most noticeably in the way in which students were exceptionally hungry for exploration, adventure, and making up for lost time after two years of pandemic restrictions.

Hiking along the Côte Bleue, the Mediterranean coastline southwest of Aix.



Above: Kelly Sax and Claude Pelopidas lead a tour of Marseille for Aix-en-Provence program students, spring 2022. Below: Cheese tasting at the home of Resident Director Kelly Sax in Aix.



## "Alumni Notebook" continued from page 5

teaches English there, and he is the school's director of communications. A strong proponent of the value of global education, Crawford uses literature as a window into diverse viewpoints and has led ten international trips for students, including four to Rwanda. The speaker of six languages, he is a multiple award-winning author of fourteen novels, a curriculum guide, and a culture and etiquette guide to Rwanda. Crawford lives in Lynnwood, Wash.

Adding a unique qualification to her CV, **Charlène Gilbert** (MA '16, French Linguistics) recently received a perfect score on the Certificat Voltaire, an exam that evaluates spelling skills in the French language. "I love finding spelling errors," she said. "It's a mental exercise that I enjoy." You can read more about her perfect 1,000/1,000 score online at [France Info](#). Gilbert is currently finishing her PhD dissertation in FRIT, entitled "Recursion and edge effects in wh-movement in native and non-native French: Evidence from reading times." She resides in Spokane, Wash.

**Scott Evans** (MA '17, French Linguistics) presented work from his dissertation at Diachro X, held at the Sorbonne in Paris on May 31 - June 2, 2022. His paper was entitled "Le sujet nominal postverbal en moyen français: analyse de la structure informationnelle." He plans to soon defend his dissertation and is still residing in Bloomington and teaching French for the Department.

**Carlotta Paltrinieri** (MA '14 and PhD '18, Italian) started a tenure-track position in Early Modern Italian Studies at Royal Holloway, University of London, in Fall 2021.

## "Editor's Note" continued from page 4

their parties. Now I've become the mother figure who tells students to do their dishes in the FRIT kitchenette but also feels pride when a student obtains an outside fellowship, represents IU at a conference, or finishes their dissertation. I remember when they were just a nervous 22-year-old finding their way around campus, and look at them now with a tenure-track job lined up!

Editing and designing the annual newsletter was always a high point of every summer since I took over in 2009. Prior to 2008, a faculty member was the editor of the newsletter, and the IU Alumni Association took charge of the design and publication. In 2008, then-chair Sonya Stephens decided we should revamp the design with the help of a freelance designer, and I became editor. Since 2009 I took that basic design template and launched my foray into graphic design, which has been a lot of fun. I hope you too have enjoyed the annual newsletter and that you will stay in touch with FRIT as I intend to do.

-- Isabel Piedmont-Smith

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## Study Abroad is Back!

Professor Alison Calhoun led a group of Hutton Honors College students on a 2-week excursion to Paris in May 2022. Here is the group in Sainte-Chapelle, with Calhoun in front, center-left.



Florence summer study abroad program students on a day trip to Siena (Piazza del Campo). Program director Andrea Ciccarelli is at center, and Associate Instructor Pantalea Mazzitello (MA '18) is at left.

### *“Diversity & Inclusion” continued from page 2*

explored cultural contributions of first- and second-generation Italians. Students learned from Phaim Bhuiyan (film director *Bangla*), Marilena Delli Umuhoza (Italian-Rwandan author, photographer, filmmaker), Amara Lakhous (Italian-Algerian author), and Mauro Muscio (LGBTQ+ activist).

In Ruth N. Halls Professor Oana Panaïté’s F467 course “Mediterranean Migrations” (offered in Spring 2020 and again on the schedule for Fall 2022), students explore the refugee crisis that has been shaping the current public discourse, social attitudes, and political decisions both in Europe and the US. This phenomenon, according to Panaïté, “is only the most recent manifestation of century-long patterns of migration tied to economic domination, war, and colonial conquest but also to commercial, human, and cultural exchanges around the

Mediterranean basin.”

In his Spring 2022 F225 course “Cultures Clashing and Changing in Francophonie,” Professor Jeff Lamontagne explored how contact through travel, media, and/or technology has shaped multiple communities around the world, including minority and majority groups in France, French Canadians (in multiple provinces), African regions with French as an institutional or colonial language, Creole populations in the Americas and in the Indian Ocean, and French populations in the United States (especially Indiana, Louisiana, and the Northeast). As the course description states, “We also discuss how contact encourages new technologies and worldviews to propagate, leading to the proliferation of efforts to improve gender representation and gender-neutrality in languages like English and French.”

This coming Fall, Prof. Ryan will teach an M222 course on “Black/White/Italian: Identity and Belonging between America and Italy.” This course will examine Italy’s colonial past and racial history to understand the contemporary challenges that a multicultural Italy faces and the immigration experience of Italians in the United States throughout the last 150 years. Students will gain an understanding of Italian and American history in tandem through the lenses of racial and ethnic identity and they will analyze the ways in which social and cultural constructs such as race and ethnicity, as well as gender and sexuality, have influenced the images and identities of Italians over the last century. Ryan has invited African-Italian filmmaker Fred Kuwornu to screen and discuss his documentary *Blaxploitation* (2016) in cooperation with the IU Cinema.