

GREETINGS FROM THE CHAIR



IT WAS AN “ANNÉE MARQUANTE” — in the best and worst sense: **PATRICK MODIANO**’s Nobel Prize in November, the Charlie Hebdo and Hyper Cacher attacks in January, and now, as we go to press, the terror of November 13, which has split our world violently into a before and after. *Fluctuat nec mergitur*.

Here on campus, in the fall of 2014, **MAURICE SAMUELS** kindly stepped in as acting chair during my leave, and when we met again at the start of spring semester, it was to gather together as a department in a meeting to discuss the January events and the French demonstrations that followed. Being in a French Department took on a new meaning for most of us, suddenly called upon by students and by colleagues across the campus to make sense of “laïcité,” French satire, Republicanism. As I wrote this chair’s message, our colleague **PATRICK WEIL** had just published *Le Sens de la République*, giving new meaning to old notions and opening up fresh debates.

In late February **DUDLEY ANDREW** and **YUE ZHUO** organized a brilliant

international conference on “The Bazin Era: French Postwar Journals and the Politics of Popular Culture.” ([See program here.](#)) One of the highlights of the event was the screening of a rare print of Nicole Verdrès’s film *La vie commence demain*—featuring Gide, Sartre, and Le Corbusier playing themselves!

The year was particularly rich in lectures—some of them responding



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CAN A 3D PRINTER INTERPRET LITERATURE?

In the fall of 2014, **MORGANE CADIEU** organized a collaboration between the French Department and the Center for Engineering Innovation and Design, to test how literary realism transfers to a technological context. The goal of the project was to print in three dimensions Emile Zola’s locomotive “La Lison” as it appears in *La bête humaine* (1890). In the novel, descriptions of the machine are often evasive and metaphorical. Zola tends to linger on elements of the train (the steam, the whistle or the headlight) and thus to favor metonymy. Because of its imprecise, indeterminate qualities, the text had to be interpreted by the group of readers and engineers in order to build a functional train. For instance, they chose to exaggerate the size of the whistle so as to acknowledge its evocative power and mimic its lengthy description in the novel. The outcome of this project was unexpected: the 3D train ended up looking very similar to the real trains that had inspired Zola—a triumph of close reading!

Cadiu plans to pursue her collaboration with the CEID by attempting to print in 3D

an object that Vladimir Nabokov famously characterized as virtually impossible to picture: Charles Bovary’s hat.

Engineering Dean **KYLE VANDERLICK**, Deputy Dean **VINCENT WILCZYNSKI**; research support specialist **GLENN WESTON-MURPHY**; postgraduate associate **NGOC DOAN**; French majors **JOHN SUNUNU**, **SIENNA JUN**, and **ALEXANDRO GONZALEZ-CALVILLO**; and senior digital officer **PATRICK LYNCH** all contributed to the success of this unique venture. For more see the Yale News Service [interview with Professor Cadiu](#) and this article in [Yale Engineering](#).



to the moment, such as **PIERRE BIRNBAUM**'s "A New Antisemitic Moment in Contemporary France," and others connecting to our ongoing search for a senior scholar in 18th- Century Studies. (*See Événementiel*, page 4.) Crowning the year was the annual Naomi Schor lecture, given this year by **SUSAN SULEIMAN**—a preview of her important new book on Irène Némirovsky and her legacy.

THOMAS KAVANAGH entered his last year of phased retirement; a reception in his honor after his last class in December was the occasion for much joyful appreciation. **MAURICE SAMUELS**, in a memorable toast, said how much he would miss Tom's questions at talks, which were always gallant in an 18th-century way but had a sharp edge. And he added that poker players all over the world are quaking in their boots at the thought that Tom will now have a lot more spare time.

We also said farewell to Assistant Professor **YUE ZHUO**, who has been named Mellon Postdoctoral Teaching Fellow in the Humanities and Humanistic Sciences at the University of Pennsylvania. Yue was Director of Undergraduate Studies at a time

of growth and change, and was instrumental in revitalizing the undergraduate major. As an intellectual historian of the 1930s, 40s and 50s, as well as a specialist of Bataille and Barthes, she made meaningful bridges with colleagues in history and comparative literature. We will miss her inquisitive spirit.

Two esteemed colleagues received secondary appointments in French:



CAROLYN DEAN (*above, left*) from the History Department, a cultural and intellectual historian of modern Europe; and **ARDIS BUTTERFIELD** (*right*) from the English and Music Departments, whose work encompasses literature and music in France and England from the 13th to the 15th century.

In 2014-2015, we welcomed four lectors from the Ecole Normale Supérieure: **SOLANGE ARBER**, **CLEMENT BADY**, **CAROLINE BOUQUET**, and **ALICE PROVENDIER**. They ran a successful French film club—by now an ENS-Yale tradition. This fall 2015 has brought another dynamic group of *normaliens*: **LAURA**

BERGOUIGNOU, **FRANÇOIS EXPERT**, **PAUL LANGLOIS DESCHAMPS**, and **EMILIE POLAK**.

We are also especially fortunate to welcome two new faculty members this fall semester. With the excellent problem of enrollment overloads, we were delighted that **RAMLA BEDOUI** from Connecticut College graciously agreed to join the team of instructors for French 140 chaired by **SOUMIA KOUNDI**. On the graduate faculty, **NATASHA LEE**, a specialist of the Enlightenment, already known to several of our students for her brilliant summer courses at the University of Geneva, is offering a seminar on "Identity and Difference in Eighteenth-Century France."

Finally, we celebrated the life and career of **PIERRE CAPRETZ** in a beautiful memorial service organized by **RUTH KOIZIM** in the Battell Chapel. (*See [program here](#).*) We continue to reach out to former Yale students, both undergraduate majors and Ph.D.s, and in this issue publish the first in a series of "*révits de vie*" recounting both academic and non-academic careers. Our online format gives us the opportunity to include pictures and links. Please send us your news!

— Alice Kaplan



The 2014-2015 *normaliens* from left to right: Alice Provendier, Caroline Bouquet, Solange Arber, and Clement Brady

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Your comments, suggestions and news are most welcome!

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BILAN

GOUVERNEMENT

Thank you to the following people who made the Department work so well:

Acting Department Chair, fall 2014:

MAURIE SAMUELS

DGS: **CHRIS MILLER**

(continuing in 2015-2016)

DUS: **CHRIS SEMK**

(continuing in 2015-2016),

LPD: **FRANÇOISE SCHNEIDER**

for the past 3 years.



Changing of the Guard in the Registrar's Office: **SONIA BAUGUIL** (above left) returned to France in May. As much as we will miss Sonia, we are fortunate to have the wonderful and very capable **ERIN TOWNSEND** (right) as our new registrar.

DOREEN NEELANS

(right) now oversees our business operations, and has already proven invaluable in helping solve problems both large and small.



We're grateful to **IAN**

SHAPIRO, Director of the MacMillan Center, for providing research fund support for faculty in French.

We are still learning the new structures in the Deans' and Provost's Offices. With **TAMAR GENDLER** as Arts and Sciences Dean, **AMY HUNGERFORD** as Chair of the Humanities Divisional Committee, **EMILY BAKEMEIER**, still our revered associate provost, joined by **JOHN MANGAN**, Senior Associate Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, we feel solidly supported on academic, financial, and structural questions.

Among those new structures is a faculty senate—a first for Yale. Ballots went out in the spring for a faculty-wide

election, and we were delighted by the news that **RUTH KOIZIM** was chosen to be one of the 22 members of the Faculty Senate in its inaugural season.

DISTINCTIONS

HOWARD BLOCH could be seen in Paris in the summer of 2015, teaching his celebrated course on cathedrals as he prepares a MOOC on the subject.

MORGANE CADIEU, in her first year as Assistant Professor of French, led her undergraduate class in a literary experiment that was subsequently captured in a video on Yale's web site: "Next stop: Bringing a literary train to life with a 3D printer." (See page 1.)

TOM CONNOLLY won a Morse fellowship for 2015-2016. He and his wife Helena welcomed Yael into the world in December 2014.

NED DUVAL was awarded the [Harwood F. Brynes/Richard B. Sewell Teaching Prize](#), the highest honor that a Yale teacher can receive, on April 27th. In the words of one student: "He is equal parts teacher and maestro."



Jonathan Holloway reading the citation

ALICE KAPLAN chaired the jury for the second annual American Library in Paris Book Award (with Sebastian Faulks and Pierre Assouline). The prize went to Robert Harris for his fine historical novel *An Officer and a Spy*, recounting the Dreyfus affair from the point of view of Colonel Georges Picquart. NB: Shortlisted for this year's prize (with a different jury) is Professor Nancy Green,

2012 Yale King Visitor, for *The Other Americans in Paris: Businessmen, Countesses, Wayward Youth (1880-1941)*.

MAURICE SAMUELS

was selected for a 2015-16 Guggenheim Fellowship, which will give him a much deserved leave from his duties as Professor of French and Director of Yale's Program for the Study of Anti-Semitism.



One of the greatest honors of the season went to our undergraduate major, **BENJAMIN MAPPIN-KASIRER**, (left) class of 2014. Benjamin was elected a Rhodes Scholar, class

of 2015, and will study both medicine and literature at Magdalen College, Oxford; his tutor in French is our esteemed colleague Toby Garfitt.

JALONS

RUTH KOIZIM will serve as Director of the Language Program for a three-year term, succeeding **FRANÇOISE SCHNEIDER**, as well as a member of the faculty senate. (See above.)

CANDACE SKORUPA, **KATHLEEN BURTON**, **FRANÇOISE SCHNEIDER** have been reappointed as Sr. Lectors.

We bid farewell to **AUDREY HOFFMANN**, *lector extraordinaire*, who moved to Ohio for her husband's job at Ohio State University.



Audrey and Benjamin Hoffmann

EVÉNEMENTIEL

2014

October 9

MICHELE HANNOOSH

University of Michigan

“Michèlet: The Writing of Art and the Writing of History in 19th-Century France”

October 11

MEMORIAL CEREMONY FOR PIERRE CAPRETZ

Ceremony in Battell Chapel followed by a reception at the Graduate Club to commemorate the life and achievements of *French in Action* creator and longtime Yale faculty Pierre Capretz

October 28

PETER BROOKS

Princeton University

“Flaubert in the Ruins of Paris”



November 10

EMMA CAMPBELL

University of Warwick, UK

“The Scandals of Medieval Translation: Thinking Difference in Francophone Texts and Manuscripts”

November 11

PHILIPPE VASSET

Author on tour with the French Embassy Cultural Services

“*Ecrire pour rendre la ville habitable*”

November 13

CHRISTY WAMPOLE

Princeton University

“Rootedness in 20th-Century France and Germany: Untangling a Tangled Metaphor”

UPCOMING CONFERENCE

DISPLACEMENTS/ DÉPLACEMENTS

A Graduate Conference in French and Francophone Studies
Hosted by the
Yale French Department

15-16 APRIL 2016

Keynote: Andrea Goulet
(University of Pennsylvania)

2015

January 28

DANIEL LEE, Brasenose College Oxford

The Benjamin (Yale '62) and
Barbara Zucker Lecture Series

“Coexistence with the Enemy? French Jewish Youth and the Vichy Regime”

February 3

RACHEL MESCH

Yeshiva College

“Belle Epoque Media Feminism and the Invention of the Celebrity Woman Writer”

February 5

PIERRE BIRNBAUM

University of Paris 1

The Benjamin (Yale '62) and
Barbara Zucker Lecture Series

“A New Antisemitic Moment in Contemporary France”

February 10

DAN EDELSTEIN

Stanford University

“Where Are Voltaire’s Letters Concerning the English Nation? Maps, Networks, and Literary History”

February 17

ANDREW CURRAN

Wesleyan University

“‘Deep Time’ and the Human Story in Eighteenth-Century Thought”

March 24

JEAN-LOUP BOURGET

École normale supérieure

“New Wave Views on the American Renoir”

March 26

CAROLINE WEBER

Barnard College-Columbia University

“The *Philosophe* and His Doubles: Restaging Oedipus in the *Age des Lumières*”

March 31

FRANÇOISE VERGÈS



Center for Cultural Studies,
Goldsmiths College,
University of London &
Comité pour la Mémoire
et l’Histoire de l’Esclavage

“*La décolonisation de la République*”

April 2

DEREK SCHILLING

Johns Hopkins University

“*Berberova à Billancoursk: écrire l’émigration en banlieue parisienne 1929-1934*”

April 8

JOEL CALMETTES

Documentary film director

“*Camus-Sartre: a Friendship Disrupted*”



April 14

FLORENCE LOTTERIE, Paris VII

“*Du sexe et des Lumières: Lieux de l’autorité féminine au 18^e siècle*”

April 15

SUSAN SULEIMAN

Harvard University

Naomi Schor Lecture Series:

“How to Become a Famous Woman Writer in Interwar France: Irene Nemirovsky’s Choices 1920-1939”

April 21

CATRIONA SETH

Université de Lorraine

“*La mère en prescira la lecture à sa fille: Reading and Acquired Immunity in 18th-Century Fiction*”

April 22

MARIE-DOMINIQUE BEDOUET

Freelance journalist

“*L’Amérique: nouvelle Terre Promise du français?*”

FACULTY NEWS



R. HOWARD BLOCH lectured on Boccaccio and the fabliaux at the Freie Universität, Berlin; on Mallarmé at the American Comparative Literature Association meeting in Seattle; and on Baudelaire and Haussmanization, as well as on Kafka, at Yale-NUS, Singapore. Professor Bloch delivered a lecture on E. M. Forster and Marcel Proust at the 50th reunion of his class at Amherst College. He stepped down as Chair of the Humanities Program on January 1 and assumed Chairship of Medieval Studies on July 1, 2015. He taught two courses for Yale Summer Sessions in Paris, “Belle Epoque France”

and “Age of Cathedrals.” Professor Bloch finished a book manuscript on Mallarmé’s “*Un coup de dés jamais n’abolira le hasard*” and is beginning work on a MOOC on gothic cathedrals.

MORGANE CADIEU is completing the manuscript of her first book on Georges Perec, Samuel Beckett, Sophie Calle, Italo Calvino, and Anne Garréta: *Peut-on marcher au hasard? Déterminisme, clinamen et libre-arbitre dans les récits du XX^{ème} siècle*. This past academic year, she taught seminars on social mobility, women vagabonds, the aesthetics of trains, and modern novels from Stendhal to Duras. In spring 2015, she spoke about the spatialization of gender, randomness and “*clinamen*” in Calle’s *Suite vénitienne* at the 20th/21st - century French and Francophone Studies Colloquium. At the “Literature and



Geography” conference hosted by the Université Lyon 2, she delivered a talk entitled “Stratification of the Urban Space: Patrick Modiano, Philippe Vasset, and the Data Centers of Memory.” She also led a panel on Monique Wittig and Violette Leduc during the “Feminism’s Abject Selves” conference at Columbia, and organized a session of the Yale Avant-Gardes working group on the “Young Girl Syndrome” with a focus on Surrealism, the Tiqqun collective, and Simone de Beauvoir’s essay on Brigitte Bardot. Her article about Modiano’s intertextual ventriloquism in *La Place de l’étoile*, “*Au tapin! Saisis ta plume!*,” is forthcoming in *French Forum*.

This was **DIANE CHARNEY**’s 31st year at Yale, the last three of which included a stint teaching Daily Themes for the English Department. She continued her work as TD Writing Tutor, and again played viola in the Jonathan Edwards Philharmonic. While doing post-graduate study in grandparenthood,

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Below: The Yale Department of French, Fall 2015



she is working on two book projects: the intellectual memoir of a lifelong Francophile, and a more popular musing about how such a person could have forsaken *la Belle France* for *la dolce vita* in the Umbrian countryside, where the food and fresh air are far better than the roads.

THOMAS CONNOLLY is on research leave for the current academic year. He is beginning work on a new book that examines *ekphrasis* in 20th-century North African poetry. Last year, he taught a new lecture course called “Mad Poets.” He recently completed a book manuscript on Paul Celan’s late poetry entitled *Unfinished Poetics*. An article on Rimbaud’s prose poem “*Mystique*” and mystical *ekphrasis* is forthcoming in *PMLA*.

In November **NED DUVAL** gave a paper at the four-day conference on Rabelais organized by Mireille Huchon at the Sorbonne (“Inextinguible Rabelais”). An expanded version of his paper “*Exégèses de Virgile, Interprétations de Rabelais: Servius et Le Tiers Livre*” will appear with the acts of the conference, to be published by the *Éditions Classiques Garnier*. In April he gave two seminar lectures at the University of Virginia: one on Marguerite de Navarre’s *Chansons spirituelles* as *contrafacta* of late fifteenth-century popular songs, the other on the relation between Clément Marot’s early texts for *chansons parisiennes* and his later Psalm translations. In the summer he gave a lecture on Erasmus for a “Yale for Life” seminar on the Renaissance.

In fall 2014 **ALICE KAPLAN** was in residence at the magical Camargo Foundation in Cassis, where she worked on her new book, *Looking for The Stranger: Albert Camus and the Life of a Literary Classic*. It will be published in fall 2016 by the University of Chicago Press and Editions Gallimard. (French title to be determined!)

Her recent articles in the online magazine *Contreligne* include review essays on David Oehlhoffen’s film *Loin des hommes* and on “*La Maladie d’Alzheimer à l’écran: Iris et Still Alice*” ([See link here.](#)) In December, she participated in a “*journee d’études*” with historian colleagues Leonard Smith and Alice Conklin at the *Centre d’Etudes “Les Glycines”* in Algiers. With spring and



A.K. “*sur les traces d’Albert Camus*”
in Oran, Algeria, December 2014

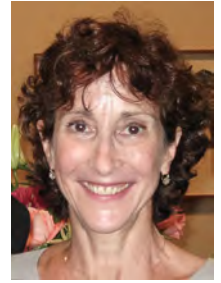
the return to campus, Kaplan offered the now practically traditional lecture course on the Modern French Novel in a team effort with Professors Maurice Samuels and Morgane Cadieu and with dynamic TAs Clémentine Fauré-Belaiche, Colin Foss, Nathalie Batrville, and James Rumsey-Merlin. Conferences and seminars took her to the University of New Mexico (a colloquial in honor of Philip Watts), to the French Department at Connecticut College, and to the French Studies Carolina seminar at the National Humanities Center, the Research Triangle Park, North Carolina.

TOM KAVANAGH’s next-to-last year in the phased-retirement program began with a fall semester devoted to teaching: an undergraduate seminar on French cinema and a graduate course on the Enlightenment. Being on leave meant that much of the spring semester was spent on too-long-postponed travel and research. His current work continues to focus on two research projects: one on the resurgence of Enlightenment Epicureanism as it took on new forms in the wake of the Revolution; the other a blend of historical and esthetic analysis aimed at investigating French film as a unique synthesis of personal directorial styles, national culture, and state involvement.

Photokays Dilali

RUTH KOIZIM

is going to be busier than ever for the next three years. In addition to continuing her full-time teaching responsibilities, she is succeeding Françoise Schneider as the Department’s Language Program Coordinator, a position with a lengthy and challenging list of duties. Françoise did a fabulous job during her tenure; Ruth will be satisfied if she can match her energy and efficiency. In May, she was elected to Yale’s first FAS Faculty Senate. She is looking forward to collaborating with colleagues across the disciplines to improve communication with the University administration — focusing in particular on the situation of non-tenured language faculty.



LAUREN PINZKA enjoyed significantly updating F160 in her role as course chair while also teaching two new versions of “Introduction to Literature in French.” She is awaiting approval of her proposal, “Approaches to Teaching the French Revolution: Myth and Memory in Modern France” for an MLA volume. Her chapter “Teaching Historical Myth and Memory in *Indiana*” will be appearing soon in the *MLA Approaches to Teaching “Indiana.”* She enthusiastically continued in her role as Freshman and Sophomore advisor. She also presented at a CLS forum on how to teach art in the language classroom and gleaned many new ideas for teaching from the numerous workshops she attended throughout the year.

MAURICE SAMUELS served as Acting Chair of the French Department in the Fall and continued to direct the Yale Program for the Study of Antisemitism. He won a Guggenheim Fellowship and will be on leave during the 2015-2016 year, completing his book *The Right to Difference: French Universalism and the Jews* to be published in 2016 by The University of Chicago Press.

CHRIS SEMK has completed the manuscript of his first book, *Playing the Martyr: Theater and Theology in Early Modern France*, and is working on a second project on Bossuet

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and preaching. He presented some of that research as a keynote speaker at the IU French and Italian graduate students' conference in April; the title of his talk was "Altared Bodies." He served his second term as DUS and looks forward to continued service to the Department's undergraduate program.

CONSTANCE SHERAK once again served as chair of our intensive elementary French course in the fall and designed and taught French 198, "Applied Advanced French Grammar" in the spring, a new course that seeks to refine advanced students' skills through grammar review, stylistic analysis, translation, and the writing of fiction pieces. At a Brown Bag luncheon at the Center for Language Study in the spring, she presented her curricular work on teaching language and culture (all levels) at the Yale Art Gallery. She enthusiastically continued in her role as co-referee for the Montaigne Prize. In June, she gave a workshop on campus for independent scholars and practicing artists at the National Coalition for Independent Scholars conference on preparing research for conference presentations and publication. Constance is currently at work on an article on the pedagogy of the Francophone literary *patrimoine* through film, and one on anachronism in the nineteenth-century novel.

CANDACE SKORUPA inaugurated a semester-long telecollaboration project



A few words from **FRANÇOISE SCHNEIDER**, reflecting on her years as Director of Language Program: "As I look back over my three years as Language Program Director, I remember (above all) the dedication and application of our students at all levels as they rose to the challenges we set for them. A few weeks in and a beginning student attempts her first conversation outside of class, a few months and the same student marvels at the words flowing from her mouth – where did they come from? None of this would be possible without the devotion of the language faculty and its commitment to our students. Together we built a stimulating and supportive environment. It was always my particular goal to extend and enrich the contexts in which students could slip easily into French. I'm confident that **RUTH KOIZIM** will carry the project forward and bring her own improvements into play."

for the intensive FREN 145 intermediate spring course, with an intermediate English class taught by Sophie Petrucci at Télécom-Paris. This Cultura-inspired collaboration of weekly small-group conversations on Skype will continue this spring with Sophie and Candace's new group of students. The semester concluded with a teleconference in Luce Hall, during which the students discussed the semester's work and each group opened up a package of cultural artifacts sent by their transatlantic friends. Several Yalies were even able to meet their French partners face-to-face in Paris during the five-week L5-level course in which they enrolled to prolong their French immersion experience.

Candace presented the fruits of this project at the 2015 Teaching Innovation Fair in April, a demonstration of innovative teaching techniques, as part of the Yale Center for Teaching and Learning's Spring Teaching Forum (STF), focusing on the impact of technology on education and ways to leverage technology to enhance learning goals.

Across another sea at the NCFS 2015 in Puerto Rico, Candace presented a paper — "*Les Comptes fantastiques d'Hausmann*" and "*L'Osmanomanie: Fantastical Escape through Popular Song*" — about popular song, irony, empire, and Haussmannian urban planning, furthering her long-standing interests in the connections between music and literature.

REMEMBERING PIERRE CAPRETZ

On October 11, 2014, more than 75 former colleagues, students, and friends gathered from near and far at Yale's Battell Chapel to commemorate the life and legacy of Pierre Capretz, the creator of *French in Action* and long-time mentor to generations of teachers and students of French at Yale and beyond. The ceremony was also an opportunity to offer support and sympathy to Sylvie Mathé, Pierre's *compagne*, and his sons, Michel Yan Capretz, Yves Capretz, Alain Capretz and Pierre-Olivier Mathé, who were in attendance. After welcoming remarks from Maurice Samuels, Acting Chair of the French Department, there were moving and sometimes humorous personal reminiscences from Suzanne Boorsch, Barry Lydgate, Béatrice Abetti, Brian Reilly and John Sullivan. The final speaker was Charles Mayer ("Robert Taylor"), whose presence at the ceremony came as a surprise to most of the attendees. A beautiful *diaporama* of highlights from

Pierre's life and career, including drawings, letters, family photographs and *carnets scolaires*, played as people arrived and at various points during the ceremony. Afterwards, everyone gathered at The Graduate Club for wine, food and further conversation. The event was made possible by the generous financial and logistical support of the Office of the President of Yale University and the Yale University Press, which continues to count *French in Action* among its best-selling titles.



GREETINGS FROM THE DGS



FOR MY SINS, I AM SERVING A post-ultimate, encore year as DGS.

We were all very sad to learn that our remarkable Registrar, **SONIA BAUGUIL**, decided to move with her family back to Marseille. Sonia was an impeccable colleague, and she did much to modernize our record-keeping and communications. The good news is that we were able to find a terrific new Registrar, **ERIN TOWNSEND**, with a BA in French from the University of Connecticut. Erin brings good cheer and good sense, and we all look forward to working with her.

Last year we awarded three PhDs:

- **BENJAMIN HOFFMANN**: Posthumous America: Literary Recreations of America at the Turn of the Eighteenth Century, directed by Thomas Kavanagh and Christopher Miller
- **CLÉMENTINE FAURÉ-BELLAÏCHE**: *“L’air protestant”* - André Gide & The Religion of Literary Modernism, directed by Alice Kaplan and Maurice Samuels
- **DUSTIN HOOTEN**: Animals and French Realism, directed by Maurice Samuels

The Department conferred the Marguerite Peyre Prize to **BENJAMIN HOFFMANN** and **CLÉMENTINE FAURÉ-BELLAÏCHE**.

Our students continued their active participation in conferences near and far. **SHANNA-DOLORES JEAN-BAPTISTE** gave her paper “The Personal is Political: Rethinking Haitian Identity in Fernand Hibbert’s *Les Thazar* (1907)” at the 26th Annual Haitian Studies Association Conference. **NATHALIE BATRAVILLE** presented two papers: “*L’exil intérieur et la marginalisation économique dans à vol d’ombre de Jacqueline Beauge*” at the University of Montreal conference *L’exil en Situation d’exigüité dans la Francophonie Internationale*; and “*Éloge du Spiralisme: Genèse de la Créolité dans l’isolement politique de Mûr à crever de Frankétienne*” at Florida State University for the conference Culture/Identity/Politics: *Éloge de la créolité*, Twenty-five years on.

ROBYN PRONT delivered “Montesquieu’s ‘Epistemological Harem:’ Defining the Eunuch” at CUNY’s conference, *Sexual (Dis)continuities*. **CATHERINE CHIABAUT** read “The Anti-Pygmalion: Laclos’ women and monsters” at the LSU French Department Graduate Conference. **ANNIE DE SAUSSURE** gave two papers: “Conflicts in ‘Bretagnes’: Identity Politics and Literary Networks in the Post-war Breton Movement” at the Western Society for French Historical Studies Annual Meeting in San Antonio, and “*La Bretagne and Littérature-Monde: Denationalizing ‘French’ literature*” at a workshop on “Language and Identity in Francophone Worlds” at Oxford University. **ELIZABETH HEBBARD** also presented two papers: “Manuscript Memorials of the Troubadours” at the 2014 MLA Convention in Vancouver, and “An Unidentified Prose Romance Fragment: Beinecke Ms 918”

at the 50th International Congress on Medieval Studies. **COLIN FOSS** gave his paper “Reading the Revolution: Hugo’s *Les Châtiments* during the Siege of Paris 1870-1871” at The Society of Dix-Neuviémistes Annual Conference in Glasgow. **LAURA JENSEN** presented a paper at the Northeast MLA Conference, “Between Text and Image, History and Fantasy: Marie NDiaye’s *La Naufragée*.”

Three of our students are off to the ENS in Paris this year: **USHA RUNGOO** (right), who is pursuing the combined French/African American Studies degree, with a dissertation that compares literature from the Antilles to literature from the Mascarene Islands; **CATHERINE CHIABAUT**, whose dissertation is “The Unsayable Sex: Hermaphroditism in Eighteenth-Century French Literature”; and **LAURA JENSEN**, whose dissertation is on universalism and race in biracial authors. Laura excelled at grantsmanship, winning three prestigious fellowships: the Fox, the MacMillan Center, and the Marandon (the latter declined).

Our students were extremely successful on the job market last year. **JULIE ELSKY**, class of 2014, will be Assistant Professor of French at Loyola University Chicago starting in 2016. **CLÉMENTINE FAURÉ-BELLAÏCHE** was hired as Assistant Professor of French at Brandeis University. **BENJAMIN HOFFMANN** is now Assistant Professor of French at Ohio State University. Our two seventh-year students have been hired full time, as they complete their

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Below: Our 2015 PhDs, from left to right: Clémentine Fauré-Bellaïche, Dustin Hooten, and Benjamin Hoffmann



dissertations: **ANNIE DE SAUSSURE** by Fordham and **LIZ HEBBARD** by the University of New Hampshire.

NATHALIE BATRAVILLE, COLIN FOSS, LIZ HEBBARD, and **ANNIE DE SAUSSURE** (whose fields can be discerned in their conference listings above) will all be on the market this year.

We instituted one major reform in our PhD requirements last year. While still requiring proficiency in two languages beyond French and English, we have switched from “Latin-plus-one” to any two *relevant* languages: any two languages that can plausibly serve a scholarly purpose. Latin, while still strongly encouraged, is no longer the ... *sine qua non*.

Our admissions season, so rich one year earlier (yielding six new students), was peculiar this year, with a smaller pool of strong candidates. As a result, one extremely strong student has matriculated: **TADAS BUGNEVICIUS** (*right*), who is the second student in the combined PhD program with Film and Media Studies. Tadas hails from Lithuania, studied



in Lyon, and holds a BA from University College London. We are delighted to have him among us.

Our graduate courses this year are:

- OLD FRENCH
R. Howard Bloch
- IDENTITY AND DIFFERENCE IN 18TH-CENTURY FRANCE
Natasha Lee
- FACT & FICTION IN THE ARCHIVES
Alice Kaplan
- AIMÉ CÉSAIRE: ONE HUNDRED YEARS
Christopher Miller
- SEMINAR ON THE PROFESSION
Christopher Miller
- THE OLD FRENCH FABLE AND FABLIAUX
R. Howard Bloch
- MONTAIGNE ET D'AUBIGNÉ
Edwin Duval
- THEATER CONTROVERSY
Christopher Semk
- SOCIAL MOBILITY IN CONTEMPORARY FRENCH LITERATURE
Morgane Cadieu

Wishing a fine year to all,
— Christopher L. Miller



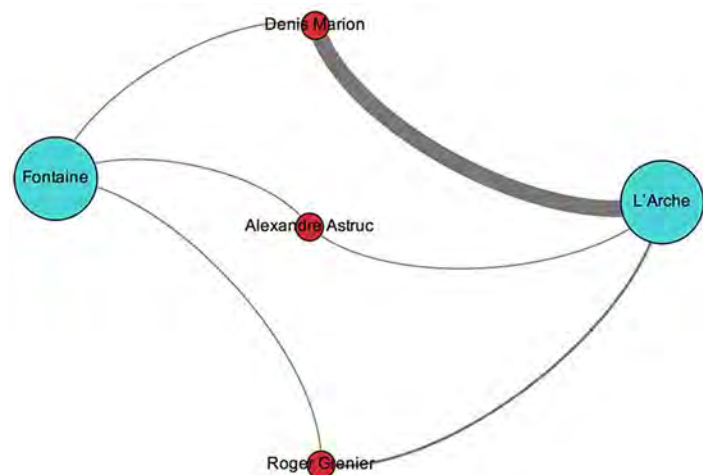
Above: Carole Delaitre and Jessica Kasje at Tom Kavanagh's retirement party

Below: Graduate Students in The Yale Department of French, Fall 2015



POSTWAR LITERARY NETWORK AT THE DIGITAL HUMANITIES LABORATORY

THE DIGITAL HUMANITIES PROJECT SEEKS interconnections among 1940s journals and newspapers. The intellectuals who published in French during and after the Nazi occupation of France produced magazines such as *L'Arche* and *Fontaine* and newspapers such as *Combat*. What were the connections among these texts — authors, themes and ideas? A project under the direction of Alice Kaplan, inspired by Dudley Andrew and Yue Zhuo's spring 2015 [conference on French postwar](#)



A first step in constructing a “Network Graph” of writers publishing in both *L'Arche* and *Fontaine*.

[journals](#), seeks to build a digital archive of 1940s revues and daily journalism, and then to mine the resulting collection to reveal previously-hidden patterns. Graduate student Robyn Pront is working on the project in the new Digital Humanities Lab in Sterling Library, a space set up to support these kinds of digital explorations. She will be joined in the spring semester by Annie de Saussure.

Using a variety of techniques drawn from the broad practice of the “digital humanities”, the project is an example of how scholars are exploring a large collection of material using approaches developed to make sense of scientific data. The team hopes to use techniques such as Sequence Alignment to find citation (or plagiarism), Network Analysis to show patterns of authorship and community, and Topic Modeling to surface latent themes present in the archive.

From North Africa to the Île-de-France, the 1940s archive covers such events as the Liberation of Paris and the end of the Second World War. The digital tools built on top of the archive may help to capture, in new ways, the attempts of intellectuals such as Camus, Amrouche, and Gide to come to terms with the upheaval of the Liberation.

— Peter Leonard, Director
Digital Humanities Laboratory



GRADUATE ALUMNI NEWS

JOSEPH ACQUISTO '03 PhD published his third book this year, *The Fall Out of Redemption: Writing and Thinking Beyond Salvation in Baudelaire, Cioran, Fondane, Agamben, and Nancy*. He is at work on his next project on Proust and modern listening.

Following the September 2014 publication of *Grand Opera: The Story of the Met* (University of California Press), **MIRELLA JONA AFFRON** '64 PhD and **CHARLES AFFRON** '63 PhD have spoken about their book at the Cosmos Club in Washington, D.C., the Maison Française of NYU, and elsewhere. In fall 2015 and winter 2016 they will speak at New York's 92nd Street Y and the Library for Performing Arts. Charles has lectured on the history of Metropolitan Opera performances of Wagner at the Richard Wagner Society of New York and the Boston Wagner Society. Mirella and Charles continue to publish their blog, OperaPost.

ELLEN BABBY '80 PhD splits her time between Washington, DC and Phoenix, AZ. She serves as a Senior Fellow at the American Council on Education in Washington, DC as

well as the Center for the Future of Arizona, located in Phoenix. Her work focuses on higher education.

MAREN BAUDET-LACKNER '10 MPhil has founded her own translation company in Paris, [MBL Translation & Copywriting](#), which allows her to split her time between literary and corporate work. In addition to annual reports, marketing texts and in-house magazines for companies ranging from Pernod Ricard to Bottega Veneta, she has also translated several books, including the enchanting 19th-century memoir *The Chronicles of the Forest of Sauvagnac*. She is currently translating a contemporary novel to be published by Amazon Crossing in 2016. She and her husband had a little boy named Nathan in October 2013 and are enjoying every minute of watching him grow up bilingual.

JOYCE BESSERER '71 M.Phil is still teaching French full-time and ESL part-time in Wisconsin.

KARIN (HARMAN) BOHLEKE '96 PhD continues in her position as director of

the Fashion Archives and Museum of Shippensburg University. She had her hands full this past semester moving the holdings into a newly renovated facility and is still organizing the artifacts in the collections storage area. Her plans are underway for the grand opening exhibit on wedding attire through the centuries. The current *Daguerreian Annual 2014* contains two of her articles: “Assimilation, Amalgamation and Defiance: The ‘Admirable Figure of the Negro’ and African American Dress in Daguerreotypes and Early Photographs” and “Put on your Polka; It's Cold Outside.” Both research articles are available on academia.edu. The Maryland Historical Society in Baltimore invited her to speak this coming November 5 on “The Mourning After: Grieving in Style in the Nineteenth Century.” In the fall she will be inaugurating and teaching a graduate course in Shippensburg's Applied History program on costume history and the identification and care of textiles in the museum environment.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

GREETINGS FROM THE DUS



IT HAS BEEN ANOTHER EXCELLENT year for the undergraduate program. First of all, the program continues to grow. According to the Modern Languages Association's report on enrollment in languages other than English, French enrollments decreased nationwide by 8% between 2009 and 2013. For those same years, French enrollments at Yale in fact increased!

In 2015, eight seniors graduated with majors in French: **KEREN ABREU**, with an essay on Ousmane Soucé and Josephine Baker and the art of resistance (directed by Christopher Miller); **EMILY BRISKIN**, with an essay on Moroccan women writers (directed by Maryam Sanjabi); **FABIOLA DAVILA**, with an essay on Abdelatif Kechiche (directed by Morgane Cadieu); **GUADALUPE GONZALEZ**, with an essay on women and consumerism (directed by Morgane Cadieu); **MARY HOLDERNESS**, with an essay on the Surrealist tarot (directed by Christopher Semk); **CHARLOTTE MCDONALD**, with an essay on migration narratives by women writers (directed by Maryam Sanjabi); and **JOHN SUNUNU**, with an essay on masculinity and the urban landscape (directed by Morgane Cadieu). Congratulations to all on their hard work!

Each year, the Department grants a number of awards to accomplished students of French from across the university. The Scott Prize "for best essay written in French" received a record number of nominations and was ultimately awarded to two students: **SERGIO INFANTE** '18 (upper division), for a remarkably nuanced essay on Diderot's *Supplément au Voyage de Bougainville*, and **SIENNA JUN** '16 (lower division), whose essay examined interpersonal relations in Christine Angot's *Le marché des amants* and Abdulatif Kechiche's film *La vie d'Adèle*. The Montaigne Prize "for proficiency in speaking and writing French" was awarded to **SPENCER BOKAT-LINDELL** '16 (1st place), **JASON YOUNG** '16 and **ALEXANDRO GONZALEZ-CALVILLO** '16 (2nd place), and **FABIOLA DAVILA** '15 (3rd place). It bears mentioning that three of the four recipients acquired most of their French at Yale—a testament to the quality of our language program! Last but



not least, the James T. King Prize for Distinction in the Senior Essay was awarded to **KEREN ABREU** (left). Congratulations to all of the prize recipients!

This year's course offerings at the undergraduate level covered a wide range of periods, genres, and areas of the French-speaking world. In addition to "gateway" courses that prepare students for further study, the Department offered nine courses taught in French:

- THE FRENCH RENAISSANCE
Edwin Duval
- 17TH-CENTURY FRENCH LITERATURE
Christopher Semk
- WRITERS AND ARTISTS IN PARIS,
1780-1914
Marie-Hélène Girard
- FRENCH FICTION SINCE 1800
Yue Zhuo
- THE PROSE POEM
Thomas Connolly
- TRAINS IN FRENCH LITERATURE
AND CULTURE
Morgane Cadieu
- FRENCH CINEMA
Thomas Kavanagh

LITERARY THEORY AND ANALYSIS

Yue Zhuo

CONTEMPORARY TALES OF
SOCIAL MOBILITY

Morgane Cadieu

In addition to these, six more courses were offered in English:

MEDIEVAL BIOGRAPHY

Ardis Butterfield

FEMININE VOICES IN FRENCH
LITERATURE

R. Howard Bloch

LITERARY MOVEMENTS FROM
ROMANTICISM TO DECADENCE

Yue Zhuo

MAD POETS THOMAS

Thomas Connolly

MODERN FRENCH NOVEL

Alice Kaplan and Maurice Samuels

THE TWO CONGOS

Christopher Miller

REPRESENTING THE HOLOCAUST

Millicent Marcus and

Maurice Samuels

"Modern French Novel" and "Mad Poets" both offered French sections for those students wishing to complete their work in French, thereby bringing the total number of French-language options at the advanced level to eleven.

— Christopher Semk

The Department of French will hold its traditional cash bar for alumni, faculty and current graduate students at the **MODERN LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION's** Annual Convention in

AUSTIN, TEXAS

JANUARY 7-10, 2016

Date and place TBD

PLEASE JOIN US!



VICTOR BROMBERT

'53 PhD, the Henry Putnam University Professor of Romance and Comparative Literatures emeritus at Princeton University, was invited to speak at the LiteraturHaus in Berlin in April about his autobiography *Trains of Thought*, and to read from the German translation of one of his war chapters. He is currently completing a sequel to be entitled *The Sabbatical Years*, of which one chapter appeared in the *Yale Review*, and other pages are soon coming out in the *Hudson Review*.



EDMUND J. (ED) CAMPION '76 PhD writes, "I earned my PhD in French in 1976 and my dissertation director was Georges May whom I miss. He was a great person. I am now retired from my former positions as a French translator and interpreter for the FBI and as a professor of French at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. I continue to suffer from mild cognitive impairment and my cognitive abilities are still declining. But I have had a good life! My wife Mary Ellen and I have been married since 1978 and we have two wonderful adult children. Our daughter Christina is 31 years old and our son Scott is 28 years old. I very much enjoyed my five years at Yale from 1971 to 1976, and I would be happy to hear from my friends at Yale."

JAY CAPLAN '73 PhD writes, "My latest book, provisionally entitled *The Culture of the Post: 1500-1800*, will be published in April 2016 by Oxford Studies in the Enlightenment. In June 2016 I will retire after 30 years at Amherst College."

LUCIENNE CARASSO '74 PhD published a book in fall 2014 about her childhood in Alexandria, Egypt. It is entitled *Growing Up Jewish in Alexandria: The Story of a Sephardic Family's Exodus from Egypt*.

Parmi les publications en poésie de **CHRISTOPHER CARSTEN** '94 M.Phil. se trouvent une traduction française d'un recueil du poète américain Edgar Bowers (*Pour Louis Pasteur*, Cheyne éditeur, 2001) et une sélection de fables traduites en anglais publiées sous le titre *Fables de La Fontaine*, University of Washington Press, Seattle & London, 2006. Il vit à Aix-en-Provence depuis 1992, où il a enseigné la littérature anglaise et américaine et celle dite du monde aussi bien que la poésie. A présent, il prépare des traductions de l'œuvre d'Arthur Rimbaud et s'occupe d'une jolie petite basse-cour à trois pas d'Aix-en-Provence.

FROG and OX

Author: Jean de la Fontaine
Translator: Christopher Carsten

*There was a frog who saw an ox
As massive as he was robust.
No bigger than an egg herself, she must
At once be like him. Envy stalks
Her every gesture. With a huff and a puff
She says, "Now tell me what you think, Sis;
How's this for a start? No? Not enough?"
"Nope." — "How 'bout now?" — "No way."
"And this?" — "Not even close."
Though confident at first,
Poor little froggy huffed so much she burst.
Folks today show symptoms of her flaw:
Like Pharaoh, this one bids
The raising of glass pyramids;
For every senator, "L'État, c'est moi,"
And all those tiny governors, though dopes,
Nurse presidential hopes.*

RONAN CHALMIN '05 PhD is Senior Lecturer à Connecticut College. He recently published "*Ethique et rhétorique de la révolution chez Gracchus Babeuf et Toussaint Louverture*," in *Modern Language Notes* (French Issue), forthcoming in 2015 and "*Malade de son génie...: raconter les pathologies des gens de lettres, de Tisset à Balzac*," (in collaboration with Anne C. Vila), in *Dix-huitième siècle*, n° 47, 2015, p. 253-270.

PATRICK COLEMAN '76 PhD writes, "After 40 years of teaching at the University of California, Los Angeles, I am starting to think about retirement. My edition of Flaubert's *Sentimental Education*, with a new translation by Helen Constantine, will appear with Oxford World's Classics in early 2016. It continues a collaboration that began with an edition of Balzac's *The Wild Ass's Skin* that appeared in the same series in 2012. I am currently working on a book on French and English novels about Montreal, the city in which I grew up."

CATHERINE CUSSET '91 PhD writes, "My novel *Une éducation catholique* came out in September 2014 at éditions Gallimard, and I spent an exciting fall hopping from bookstore to book fair across France. My first novel, *La blouse roumaine*, which came out very discreetly in 1990 and is partly set at Yale, was published in Folio (the paperback edition) in June 2015, for the twenty-fifth anniversary of its first publication! All of my novels are now in Folio. I am reading the whole *Recherche* again—a delight—and I am working on a new novel, even though nobody reads anymore! Just can't help it."

REV. RICHARD A. DESHAIES, SJ '82 MA (See page 18.)

JULIA ELSKY '14 PhD will join the faculty of the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures at Loyola University Chicago in Fall

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“UN TOURNANT DÉCISIF”

Après ma première expérience d'enseignement à Yale (2004-2005), j'ai continué mes études de musique (prix de clavecin et de basse continue au CNR de Boulogne-Billancourt) et en ai entrepris de nouvelles en musicologie (master à Paris-IV, prix d'esthétique au CNSM de Paris). Je viens de soutenir, en 2014, une thèse consacrée au *Temple de la Gloire*, unique opéra de Voltaire et Rameau, au tout nouvel Institut de Recherche en Musicologie (CNRS/Paris-IV/BnF/MCC). L'édition critique doit paraître l'année prochaine, dans les *Opera Omnia Rameau*, ainsi qu'un enregistrement chez Ricercar (Chœur de chambre de Namur-Les Agrémens-dir. Guy van Waas), en attendant une récréation scénique en 2017 par le Philharmonia baroque orchestra à Berkeley, CA. Je suis également responsable éditorial au Centre de musique baroque de Versailles depuis 2009, où j'ai publié des éditions de Campra, Clérambault, Couperin, Dauvergne, Lully, Montéclair, Rameau...

Je me suis marié en 2007 avec **MARINA DAVIES** '05 PhD. Nous avons d'abord vécu à Waterville, ME, Marina enseignant alors à Colby College, pour lequel elle continue d'organiser tous les ans un semestre d'hiver à Paris, puis à Saint Denis (93), où sont nés nos deux enfants, Caroline (2009) et Nicholas (2012). Après avoir sévi à la Sorbonne, au lycée et au collège, j'enseigne actuellement le latin et le grec en hypokhâgne au lycée Victor Hugo (Paris 13e) et Marina la littérature comparée à New York University à Paris. Nous venons de nous embourgeoiser et de déménager à Issy-les-Moulineaux.

JULIEN DUBRUQUE participated in the exchange program with the ENS in 2004-05.

NEWS FROM THE YALE SUMMER SESSION

Many undergraduates studied French at all levels in Yale Summer Session in Paris 2015. Colleagues offered Level 1 to Level 5 classes in New Haven and then in Paris, and most students lived with host families in the Parisian region.

After three intense weeks of elementary French in New Haven, **MATUKU NGAME** and **CANDACE SKORUPA** took their 14 students of the L1/L2 level (FREN 110/120) for a five-week homestay and study in Paris. With many of the Parisian activities inspired by *French in Action*, the class this year made an inaugural weekend voyage to Lyon, the capital of the Gauls and of gastronomy. Although we did not see Monsieur Courtois in the TGV, Lyonnais highlights included a class dinner at a *bouchon lyonnais*, a visit to the Roman theater at Fourvière, a tour of the *traboules* in *Vieux Lyon*, the new *Musée des Confluences*, *l'Institut Lumière*, and *La Maison des Canuts*, the silkworkers' museum and atelier, with a live weaving demonstration. Other highlights in Paris included a wine-tasting at Château-O, Gluck's *Alceste* at the Opéra Garnier, and a farewell dinner at *Le train bleu* in the Gare de Lyon. A wonderful summer of culture and hard work!

Another amazing summer for Fren 130/140 teachers and students! After four weeks in New Haven, **RUTH KOIZIM** and **SOUMIA KOUNDI** traveled to Paris, arriving just in time for "la canicule". Even with three hours of class every day and a corresponding amount of homework, there was plenty of time to explore the city and its cultural, historical, and gastronomic attractions. Home-stay



accommodations contributed to the students' phenomenal linguistic progress as well as to their adjustment to French culture. Everyone made the most of the two-day excursion to Belgium and a second weekend trip to Normandy.

HOWARD BLOCH taught two courses for Yale Summer Sessions in Paris this summer. Students in the course on "Belle Epoque France" visited the Orsay Museum, Monet's home and gardens in Giverny, the Rodin, Maxims, and Moreau museums, the *Musée des arts décoratifs*, and the Lumière Brothers Exposition at the *Grand Palais*. Students in the "Age of Cathedrals" course visited the *Musée de l'architecture* and the *Musée du moyen age* (Cluny), and the cathedrals of Saint-Denis, Notre-Dame de Paris, Chartres, Amiens, Beauvais, Reims, and la Sainte-Chapelle.



DECONSTRUCTING THE WORKPLACE FOR WOMEN



THE ACTIVE LIFE— For about five years now, Marion Freeman has been both a graduate student and a coach. This year she will be both Branford's acting dean and a French professor.

During my last four years of graduate work in the French Department, I coached the Yale Women's Squash team. This was a fabulous experience, in countless ways, and gave me lifelong friends among those students whom I coached over those years. Those were the early years of Title IX legislation so it was a challenging time to be in women's sports at Yale. The stories I could recount of the hurdles we encountered in the early days of women's sports at Yale would fill volumes!

When I completed my PhD in 1980, I spent another year at Yale as the interim Dean of Branford College and Assistant Professor in the French Department. This was a wonderful year of teaching and learning about college administration. But greener pastures beckoned, so I turned my sights to Wall Street. International banking seemed a likely step given my language skills, but I had zero background in finance or economics. In those days, the large international banks offered rigorous 6-12 month training programs where one could essentially earn an MBA on the job. I applied to J.P Morgan and was accepted right away! They appreciated the rigor of my PhD accomplishments and they loved my coaching and athletic background. I was thrown into a very demanding training program where most of my colleagues were already MBAs or finance majors, but we had truly remarkable professors from Harvard and Columbia teaching us the basics of finance and accounting so I was able to come up to speed over the course of six months. My first real job in finance was in the public utilities area where the bank had large exposures to the nuclear, coal, and gas industries. It was a fascinating area for someone who had more expertise in deconstructionism than in analyzing nuclear construction projects and the associated cost overruns. After several years in the public utilities domain, I moved over to the fixed income trading floor where I learned all about the bond markets and the economic and political forces that would move the market. In those days, and not too dissimilar from today's market environment, we would hang on every nuance coming out of the Fed for clues as to where the bond market was going. It was fast moving, heady, and thrilling. In 1984, JP Morgan moved me to their London office to cover some of the large central banks of Europe, and other European industrial and financial accounts.

This was a whole new experience and equally interesting and fast-paced. I loved living in London, and my work took me to all the major capitals of Europe.

When I married in 1986, I moved back to New York and continued to work on the trading floor. After our first child was born, I actually job-shared with another woman for almost two years. This was very unusual for the bank to allow such an experiment, particularly for positions on the trading floor, but we were both experienced and highly committed to making this a success, not only for us, but for the women who followed us. We both enjoyed it a lot, and enjoyed the extra time it gave us with our young children. After our second child was born, I regretfully left JP Morgan, largely because the commute from New Jersey was taking up so much of my time. But I joined forces with my husband and worked part time in international sales at his company, an industrial controls manufacturing firm.

In 1993, our young family set out for Maine where we live to this day. We started a software company, Kepware Technologies, and went through all the vicissitudes of a start-up. We almost failed completely, and then slowly redirected our focus and developed new products that started to catch on. My work was focused on the international side of things, but I partnered with my husband on all the major decisions and agonies of founding a company. As we finally became a viable company, and even started to make some profit, I shifted away from working at the company directly and focused more on several local non-profit boards in Maine. I stayed very involved with our children's schools, and managed all the financial aspects of our working/ and non-working lives. Today, we have almost 100 employees in Portland Maine, and although our children are now grown and both living in NYC, we feel as busy as ever and ready for more challenges. I've even dabbled in the political world a bit by chairing the finance committee of Eliot Cutler's campaign as an independent for the position of Governor in Maine. That was probably as much exposure to politics as I will ever want to have, but it certainly was interesting!

I've been blessed with a wonderful marriage and family, so as our retirement years approach, I am eager to see where the concept of more "free" time might lead us.

Believe it or not, I've had a hankering to get back into teaching in some way! I've always missed it. I'm wondering how to make that happen. We'll see...

MARION FREEMAN received her Ph.D. in French in 1980 with a thesis entitled "The Drama of Rhetoric in *Jean Giraudoux's Histoire des Fontranges*" under the direction of Paul de Man.



2016. This year she is a Mellon Foundation and Volkswagenstiftung Postdoctoral Fellow at the University of Freiburg in Germany. (See “Study Abroad,” page 17.)

KAREN ERICKSON '87 PhD is currently Academic Dean at the College of St. Benedict/St. John's University.

IRENE FINEL-HONIGMAN '73 PhD and Fernando B. Sotelino have a new book out *International Banking for a New Century*, Routledge, 2015. She writes, “On a personal note: My daughter Ana Finel-Honigman received her DPhil in Art History from Oxford University.”

RHONDA GARELICK '91 PhD writes, “I am on extended leave from the University of Nebraska, living in New York City, where my husband Daniel is now director of El Museo del Barrio. I spent the last year doing promotion for my book *Mademoiselle: Coco Chanel and the Pulse of History* (Random House, 2014), while a visiting professor at the CUNY Graduate Center, where I taught in Theatre Studies and Comparative Literature. This academic year, I shall be Stanley Kelly, Jr. Visiting Professor of Distinguished Teaching in Comparative Literature at Princeton University.”

PERRY GETHNER '77 PhD writes, “I am stepping down as department head after 16 years but plan to continue teaching for several more years. I am still publishing critical editions and translations of works by women playwrights, including most recently the pedagogical playlets of Mme de Maintenon, with much more in the pipeline. I am also part of international teams publishing the complete plays of such authors as Rotrou, Du Ryer, Mairet and Thomas Corneille. I am president of Oklahoma State University's new chapter of Phi Beta Kappa, chartered in 2013, and I am delighted that more than two decades devoted to the application process finally paid off.”

ANDREA GOULET '89 BA, '99 PhD is Associate Professor of French at the University of Pennsylvania and co-chair of the Nineteenth-Century French Studies Association (NCFs). Her second book, *Legacies of the Rue Morgue: Science, Space, and Crime Fiction in France* is coming out with the University of Pennsylvania Press in Fall 2015. She lives in Swarthmore with her husband Jed Esty and their two children, Jonah (15) and Maya (12).

GASTON HALL '59 PhD, who recently celebrated his diamond wedding anniversary writes, “I am researching and publishing as much as last year, but winding down. I am

pleased that excerpts from my article in last year's Haydn Society Journal were used to advertise the 22nd English Haydn Festival at Bridgnorth and in the Festival program, and that my research is featured in this year's Rhodes Scholar magazine (no. 2, 2015, 26-27). I can now confirm appointment as ‘Scholar in residence’ at Millsaps College 25 Oct./14 Nov. Meanwhile I will explore Bordeaux and the vineyards thereabout on the ‘Cyrano de Bergerac’ and will have the opportunity to remind fellow passengers more interested in claret and sauterne than in the Bordeaux literary three Ms (Montaigne, Montesquieu, and Mauriac) that we owe a lot especially to the first two and that the third is still a good read.”

SALLY HESS '91 MPhil (*Below, dancing with instructor, Darius Mosteika at July 1 performance*), writes, “Over the past 40 years and forward, I am grateful for my dear Yale friends, in Paris, Montpellier and NYC. My essay “Taking The Backward Step” will appear later this summer in the special issue *Dance, Movement and Buddhism of The Journal of Dance, Movement and Spiritualities*, vol. 2.1.”



ANNABEL KIM '14 PhD, after a summer spent reading Nathalie Sarraute's letters at the BNF and never getting over the transgressive feeling of being a snoop, returned to the States for her second and final year as a Provost's Postdoctoral Associate at Duke University. She has an article on Marie Darrieussecq's *Clèves* forthcoming in *Studies in 20th and 21st-Century Literature*, and her book, *Unbecoming Language: Sarraute, Wittig, and Garréta Writing Against Difference*, is under contract with the Ohio State University Press.

ED KNOX '66 PhD received an honorary Doctor of Letters degree this summer on the 100th anniversary of the Middlebury College Language Schools. He and Huguette have left

Middlebury after 46 years, and now make their home, for the non-Paris part of their year, in Rockville, MD. His “What Is It about France?” was given as a lecture last spring and will appear in the December *French Review*. He continues to wonder, as did Henry Pillsbury already in 2013, how there came to be so many Yale French courses in English.

PHILIP LEWIS '69 PhD retired from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation on March 15, 2015.

BARRY LYDGATGE '75 PhD writes, “Having just come off a four-year term as chair of the Wellesley College French Department, I'm looking forward to teaching a full schedule of courses this fall, including a seminar in public writing for language majors that I inaugurated last spring—the first course I've taught in English in over thirty years. I've recently completed work on the third edition of the *French in Action* books for the Yale Press; the challenge, following Pierre Capretz's death, is to decide which direction the course should take in the coming years. One likely project for the near future is developing a smartphone app.

Like others who knew him at Yale during his stint as *normalien de service* in the French Department in 1967-68, I mourn the loss of **JEAN-MAX GAUDILLIÈRE**, psychiatrist, Maître de Conférences at EHESS and associate of the Traumatic Psychosis Research Group at Yale, who died in Paris on March 19, 2015; he was 72. He loved harpsichords and motorcycles, and was a generous and loyal friend.”

JOHN LYONS '72 PhD writes, “I'm happy to say that the *Cambridge Companion to French Literature*, which I am editing, is to appear in November—in time for holiday gift-giving! On March 25 and 26, I will be hosting a conference at the University of Virginia with the title ‘The Dark Thread: The *Histoires tragiques* and the Genealogy of the Gothic Tale.’”

JAMES MAGRUDER '84 M.A., '88 M.F.A., '92 D.F.A is pleased to announce the forthcoming publication of his third book of fiction, *Love Slaves of Helen Hadley Hall*, in June of 2016. A *roman à clef* twenty years in the making, *Love Slaves* is set at Yale in 1983-1984 and celebrates his first two semesters in the French department and on the third floor of the infamously randy and international graduate dorm at 420 Temple Street. He continues to teach dramaturgy at Swarthmore College.

MATHILDE MESAVAGE's '79 PhD recent articles include “*L'Espace onirique dans les romans d'Abdelhak Serhane*,” “*Métamorphose*

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de la mémoire: Le Rêve de Djamilia par Fatiha Benatsou, "À la recherche de la Kahina occultée sous Le Voile du silence de Djura," and "Le chaos du néant: théâtralité, musique et la magie du verbe dans Le Sablier de Sofia Guellaty" (forthcoming). She writes, "I have just returned from Kenya to visit the baby elephant I adopted in January through the David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust. What an extraordinary experience! My newest passion is the study of Japanese, bonsai and koi. I spent three months in Japan studying the language during my last sabbatical, and am planning to spend 3 months in 2016 continuing my studies in Japanese."

JULIA M. MCNAMARA '80 PhD continues to serve as president of Albertus Magnus College, New Haven.

ARMINE MORTIMER '74 PhD writes, "Look for *Casanova the Irresistible* late this year or next, my translation of Philippe Sollers's *Casanova l'admirable*, to be published by the University of Illinois Press. It's a sparkling,

amusing, celebratory account of Giacomo Casanova's life based on his memoirs, written in the distinctive style and manner Sollers has made famous in his many essay-books. Besides translating, reading, writing professionally here and there, I have managed to keep up my violin-playing, both in chamber music and in the professional Champaign-Urbana Symphony Orchestra."

BUFORD NORMAN, '71 PhD divides his time between Paris and Columbia, SC. He will be in Paris for the first half of 2016, if anyone is passing through. He continues to work on two projects, a website devoted to the poet/playwright/librettist [Philippe Quinault](#) and a database of works by Racine set to music.

HENRY PILLSBURY '58 BA, '60 MA, has come out with a brief book of poetry, *Grace Damns*. He continues working in theater in France — mostly in production.

BARBARA PILVIN '76 MA writes, "I'll be retiring from the Free Library of Philadelphia in October and plan to spend a lot of time

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IN MEMORIAM: GRADUATE ALUMNI

CHARLES GRAVES HILL '55 PhD died on June 7, 2015, at the age of 90. As a professor of French at Skidmore College, he met Elizabeth Krohne, a member of the English faculty, whom he married in 1957. Hill taught French at Brooklyn College for 30 years, serving as chairman of the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures during NYC's challenging fiscal times. He was honored as a *Chevalier des Palmes Academique* for his leadership role in the NYC area American Association of Teachers of French. He was an active member of the Church of the Ascension in NYC, a volunteer for the Wesleyan University Annual Fund, and a devoted fan of the New York Jets and the New York Mets.

J. B. "JAY" KERBOW '63 PhD died on November 10, 2014 in Dallas, Texas of complications from Alzheimer's Disease. He met his wife Dorothy in 1951 while working as an interpreter for NATO; he resumed his studies in French after completing his tour. He taught at SMU, UT Austin, and the University of Dallas. In 1970, Kerbow accepted a position at Frostburg State University in Maryland, where he was Chairman of the Modern Foreign Language Department for 23 years. In 1993 the Kerbows retired to Dallas, where they were active in many organizations.

VIVETTA G. PETRONIO '74 PhD died on July 29, 2015. Born in Italy, she arrived in Erie, Pennsylvania as a young child. A graduate of Mercyhurst College, she was the first Mercyhurst student to be named a Fulbright Scholar. After completing her Yale doctorate, she accepted a faculty position at Mercyhurst, where she taught languages and humanities for over forty years. Throughout her life she enjoyed extensive travel vacations and supported many philanthropic causes.

INTRODUCING NATASHA BOAS: CURATOR IN MOTION

A 1996 doctoral thesis on "Sublime Configurations: Breton, Bataille and the Surreal" under the direction of Denis Hollier* was the start of a dynamic career in museum curating and exhibition-making for Natasha Boas.

After working in leading art galleries and museums in Paris, New York, and San Francisco and pioneering the curatorial practice Master's program at the California College of Arts, Boas struck out on her own in 2010 as International Independent Curator and Curatorial Consultant.

She is a specialist of "The Mission School"—the San Francisco movement of radical artists working in the pre-gentrification Mission district who embraced the Beats, Funk, Punk and all varieties of street art. In 2013 she curated the first major show devoted to The Mission School at the San Francisco Art Institute, "Energy is All Around," which traveled to New York University's Grey Art Gallery. (The Mission School was the focus of a fascinating profile by Dana Goodyear in the August 15, 2015 *New Yorker*, "A Ghost in the Family.")

Natasha Boas was also the moving force behind a new San Francisco branch of the legendary Maeght Gallery, the Jules Maeght Gallery. In 2014, her curated show at the San Francisco Maeght, "Art in Motion," was praised by the *New York Times* for its combination of "the anarchic spirit that once animated Dada and Surrealism with that of San Francisco's experimental art scene." Interactive fire breathing robots in the show are reminders of Boas's own teenage experience with the Robot Art Collective, Survival Research Laboratories. Keep a look out for her next exhibition on the French-Algerian "outsider" artist, Baya, who influenced Picasso and Breton.

You can read more about her work [here](#), [here](#), and [here](#).

*Available on dissertation abstracts via author name Pamela Natasha Leof



Photo by Arnaud Gaenther, 2014, Jules Maeght Gallery

afterwards working in two of my favorite fields, genealogy and consumer-health information, education and advocacy. It's hard to believe I've been at the Library almost 29 years...and hard to believe that after 29 years on a regular work schedule, I'll be making my own schedule! I'm looking forward to it and nervous about it at the same time, a common 'ailment' among those who are about to retire. I recently marked the upcoming event by going up to Boston to the Special Libraries Association's annual conference, which was followed immediately by five days in New Haven at Yale's second International Choral Festival, two wonderfully rewarding yet exhausting events. The Festival gave me a chance to sing, among other pieces, Leonard Bernstein's *Chichester Psalms*, and to sing with vocal groups from Singapore, Havana, Stockholm, and the YMCA Jerusalem Youth Chorus as well as the Yale Alumni Chorus. I hadn't spent that much time at Yale in over 35 years, and being there for almost a week after such a long time was both strange and wonderful!"

SOPHIE QUEUNIET '99 PhD is Senior Lecturer in the French Department at Columbia University. Her translation of Philip Watts's posthumous essay on Roland Barthes and cinema will be published in fall 2015 in France by De L'Incidence Éditeur (*Le Cinéma de Roland Barthes*). The original English version will be published by Oxford University Press in the spring of 2016.

MARY RICE-DEFOSSE '84 PhD received the Donald Harward Faculty Award for Service Learning Excellence from Maine Campus Compact last spring.

RONNIE SCHARFMAN '79 PhD writes, "I suppose it's that time in life — the most important thing I'd like to share with old classmates who may not know is that Joe '64 and I became grandparents of twin girls, Mae and Rose, born on May 9, 2015 to our son, Ethan Youngerman '99 and his wife, Rebecca Lessem. I'm hoping to gather the whole clan a year from now for my big 70th at some grand old *mas* in Provence and invite all my French friend-colleagues from over the years to join us. My own intellectual endeavors tend more to writing poetry and midrash now — an outcome of my deepening engagement with Jewish studies.

ENGLISH SHOWALTER '57 BA, '64 PhD is the general editor of the fifteenth and final print volume of the *Correspondance de Madame de Graffigny*, which will be published by the Voltaire Foundation in late 2015 or early 2016. His biography of Mme de Graffigny, originally

"STUDY ABROAD"



The fall after completing my PhD, I found myself in a nearly thousand-year old monastery in a village in the Loire-et-Cher Department, headquarters for my study abroad teaching assignment for the University of Western Florida. Part of the program was a road trip: for two weeks of the semester, I left the peaceful village with my students to study the cultural history of the Second World War throughout Europe. We started at the beaches in Normandy and made a long stop in Paris. On the day devoted to collaboration and

accommodation, I took the students to the Museum of the Prefecture of Police in the fifth *arrondissement*. We walked through the guarded barrier, past the registration desk of the police station, and up a few flights of stairs to the museum. My goal that day was to show the students how the museum exhibit represented history. While scholars have shown that only a small percentage of the Parisian police resisted the Nazis, the exhibit devoted to the Nazi Occupation focuses almost entirely on police resistance. My graduate training, especially the many conversations I had with my advisor Alice Kaplan, as well as my coursework with Henry Rousso (Visiting Professor at the Yale Program for the Study of Anti-Semitism in 2013), prepared me to lead discussions on memory and war. To my dismay, the students' eyes were drawn not to the WWII exhibit, or to my analysis, but to a macabre guillotine set up in a corner of the room. It is hard to get students to pay attention when they are busy measuring their heads against an eighteenth-century execution apparatus! Luckily, I had studied the eighteenth century for my oral exam question with Thomas Kavanagh, and as I detoured in my lecture to talk about the history of capital punishment in France, I silently thanked the Department for insisting that graduate students focus on a range of centuries in our oral exams...

JULIA ELSKY '14 PhD will spend the 2015-2016 academic year as a Mellon and Volkswagen Foundations Postdoctoral Fellow at the University of Freiburg, before beginning her tenure track position as Assistant Professor of French at Loyola University Chicago.

published in English in 2004, appeared in 2015, with some revisions and corrections, in a French translation published by Hermann as *Madame de Graffigny: sa vie et son œuvre*.

DOMINIC THOMAS '96 PhD was named the first Madeleine L. Letessier Chair in French and Francophone Studies and re-appointed to a third term as department chair at UCLA. He recently held visiting professorships at Seoul National University and at the Australian National University. A French version of his book *Black France: Postcolonial Cultures, Migration and Racism* (Indiana University Press), *Colonial Culture in France Since the Revolution* (with Pascal Blanchard et al, Indiana University Press), *Francophone Afropean Literatures* (with Nicki Hitchcott, Liverpool University Press), and with Nicolas Bancel and Thomas David, *The Invention of Race* (Routledge) and *L'invention*

de la race (La Découverte). A translation (with Annette Smith) of Aimé Césaire's *Like a Misunderstood Salvation and Other Poems* was published by Northwestern University Press, and a translation of Sony Labou Tansi's novel *The Shameful State* will soon be published in the Global African Voices series that he edits at Indiana University Press.

SUZANNE TOCZYSKI '94 PhD, teaches at Sonoma State University. Following the publication of her recent article on Patrick Chamoiseau's *Solibo Magnifique*, Suzanne's new project has born first fruits in the forthcoming article, "'Blessed the Breasts at Which You Nursed': Mother-Child Intimacy in St. Francis de Sales' *Treatise on the Love of God*," which will be published in *Spiritus: A Journal of Christian Spirituality*.

CHAPMAN WING '13 PhD just finished his first year as Assistant Professor of French at the College of Staten Island (CUNY).

JONATHAN BERKEN '10 BA writes, "After spending the past 5 years studying the bilingual brain for a PhD in cognitive neuroscience at McGill University, I have now moved back to the U.S. to pursue an M.D. at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. I miss using my French every day, but know that the language will continue to play an important role in my future endeavors."

BILL FRY '55 BA writes, "I was just back for my 60th! But I could only stay for Friday night, as I had to get up to MA for a grandson's graduation from Groton. Nevertheless, I saw the guys I wanted to see, and that made it great...I've been involved with the exchange program between Northwestern University medical students and various French medical schools for 18 years. I am also involved with the Chicago Bureau of Tourism and the Chicago Greeter Program... I usually walk around the Chicago Loop and talk about Chicago history, the great Chicago Fire of 1871, and how, in the rebuilding of the city, Chicago became one of the great cities of the world for modern urban architecture. I meet French-speaking tourists from France, but also from Belgium, Switzerland, Canada, and even Morocco."

GABRIEL GOODLIFFE '94 BA writes, "I am happy to report that that a new book I co-edited with Riccardo Brizzi on the 2012 Presidential elections in France and their aftermath was published by Berghahn Books earlier this year. Here is the full reference: Gabriel Goodliffe and Riccardo Brizzi eds, *France after 2012*, New York: Berghahn, 2015."

DEBORAH KABACK '71 BA (right with sealyham terrier Henry) writes, "I am working as a lawyer in financial services in New York. Interests include gardening and of course Henry."



BENJAMIN MAPPIN-KASIRER '14 BA is putting his medical studies on hold to pursue graduate work at Magdalen College, Oxford as a Rhodes Scholar. He is eager to return to French as a graduate student in the Faculty of Modern Languages. He then plans to devote the second half of his

time in the UK to graduate work in the medical sciences. He writes, "Please let me know if ever you are in Oxford!"

MARCUS ODA '09 BA writes, "I am working as a lawyer for a human rights organization in Tallinn, Estonia. We focus on issues related to HIV and human rights in countries of the former Soviet Union. Since I do a lot of work with the UN, I get to use my French regularly. I also try to visit friends in Paris frequently and attend events at the Alliance Française here in Estonia."

LISBETH SHEPHERD '93 BA, writes, "After graduating from Yale, I obtained an [Echoing Green](#) Fellowship and co-founded an organization called Unis-Cité (www.uniscite.fr). Unis-Cité, which is now present in over 40 cities around France and inspired the national program, *le Service Civique*, just celebrated its 20-year anniversary at the *Grande Halle de la Villette* with President François Hollande delivering remarks to the 2000 young adults gathered from around

France. I'm now living in Brooklyn running Green City Force: greencityforce.org."

IKE WILSON '11 BA has served as the Director of Content and Marketing at a New York-based education startup called Brainscape since graduation. He recently oversaw the completion of the company's new comprehensive French app, which relies on an adaptive flashcard algorithm that patterns the order of study on the user's strengths and weaknesses. The product can be found [online](#) or on the Apple [App Store](#).

VANESSA WOOD '05 BS writes, "After Yale, I completed a MSc and PhD in Electrical Engineering at MIT. In 2011, I started as a professor at ETH Zurich (Swiss Federal Institute of Technology) and got tenure last fall. You can check out more about our research at: www.lne.ee.ethz.ch. I enjoy living in Switzerland, learning German and the local Züritütsch dialect, and getting to use my French when I take the train just 1.5 hours to the southwest!"

REPORT FROM A CHAPLAIN

I am sorry to say that my life's journey since Yale has not taken me more deeply into French Studies professionally. On the other hand, I have remained interested in French literature and literary theory. Just today I began reading *L'Étranger* in preparation to read the new novel by Kamel Daoud: *Meursault, contre-enquête*. Some interests never die!

I have once again changed jobs. For the past four years I have been the full-time prison and jail chaplain for the Middlesex Sheriff's Office in Billerica, MA, a short-term facility for pre-trial detainees and prisoners serving sentences less than three years. I live in Cambridge at the Harvard House of Studies of the Society of Jesus, with a colleague who is professor of theology and Hindu studies at Harvard Divinity. So, my life is still immersed in the university communities at Harvard and at Boston College, despite my days spent behind the bars of a prison!

I still use my French when visiting scholars stay in our house. Most of these Francophones are from Africa or the Middle East, particularly from Lebanon and Syria. I encounter almost none from France, but some occasionally from Montreal.

In the prison itself I am generally occupied with religious services, but I also run therapeutic groups and do some individual counseling. My hope in the near future is to sponsor and direct book clubs, in which several inmates on a unit would commit themselves to reading a book together (in English unfortunately, not French!) and discussing it at weekly intervals. Already, I stock the shelves on individual units with donated books and have begun working more closely with our librarian. I am still deeply committed to literacy and literature among the prisoners. In all of my life's endeavors, which have brought me intermittently into the margins, periphery, and frontiers of society here in the US and abroad, I have been profoundly influenced and remain indebted personally and intellectually to my mentor, Fredric Jameson. I also was deeply influenced by a course I took in Rabelais with Prof. Gérard Defaux and a course in Medieval Literature with Prof. Charles Méla. Some 33 years later, those are the courses and books that have had the most impact on me over the long haul!

RICHARD A. DESHAIES, SJ '82 MA