

# FRENCH & FRANCOPHONE STUDIES

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## LETTER FROM **THE COORDINATOR**

*Dr. Brigitte Weltman-Aron*

**I**t is with pleasure that I welcome you to this issue of our newsletter with the purpose of sharing some of the activities of our centers, faculty members, alumni, and students in French and Haitian Creole.

Our focus this year on Global French Studies reflects the transnational interests in our courses and our research (on Africa, Haiti and the Caribbean, the Maghreb, Quebec, and Vietnam in particular). In an interview by Rori Bloom, our specialist in Haitian Creole studies, Ben Hebblethwaite, discusses the UF community's reaction to the Haitian earthquake and assesses the situation in Haiti today. Hélène Blondeau reports on the visits in 2009–2010 of several guest lecturers to campus in the context of her course

on Varieties of French in North America. As well, Alioune Sow and I announce the upcoming conference we are organizing, sponsored by the Gwendolyn M. Carter Faculty Fellowship in African Studies for 2010–11, to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of African independences.

This newsletter also allows us to share the wide range of activities of our centers—the France-Florida Research Institute and the Paris Research Center—both of which continue their

mission of support of scholarly excellence by sponsoring visits of eminent scholars and promoting the research and teaching of French and Francophone studies. As well, we report on the continuing success of our exchange programs with the Institut d'études politiques and with the Université de Rennes.

Various sections on the news of our faculty members and students illustrate our commitment and contribution to the University of Florida's reputation for academic excellence. We are pleased to welcome a dynamic new lecturer to our faculty. Amanda Shoaf Vincent, whose interests include French contemporary culture, land-

scape architecture, and issues of environmental sustainability, joined the French section in the Fall of 2010. We are proud to share news from our graduate students, who are actively involved in sponsored research, in going to national and international conferences, and in publishing. Several of our students at the undergraduate and graduate levels have contributed articles detailing their adventures and accomplishments. Finally, we are delighted to share news from our alumni and are pleased to see them using their background in French and Francophone Studies in a wide array of academic and professional pursuits.

For updates on our activities throughout the year, visit our website: [www.languages.ufl.edu/french](http://www.languages.ufl.edu/french)

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# HAITIAN EARTHQUAKE VIEWED FROM UF: AN INTERVIEW WITH BENJAMIN HEBBLETHWAITE

*interviewed by Rori Bloom*

On January 12, 2010, the Caribbean nation of Haiti was struck by a devastating earthquake just outside of its capital city, Port-au-Prince. Millions of people were affected including more than 300,000 dead, more than 300,000 injured and over 1,000,000 homeless. Ben Hebblethwaite, Assistant Professor and specialist in Haitian Creole, provides some insights into how students and faculty here at UF have responded to this disaster.

**RB:** In your classes, you teach many students who are originally from Haiti and who have family living there. How did these students react initially to news of the earthquake?

**BH:** My students were at first devastated by this disaster which is considered the worst in the recorded history of this hemisphere. However, they were quickly mobilized to raise funds and awareness.

**RB:** After their initial shock at the amplitude of the catastrophe, have students found ways to contribute to recovery efforts?

**BH:** The student organizations, Club Creole, one of UF's largest, and Hope for Haiti, have always been active in raising funds and volunteering in Haiti on behalf of the nation's neediest people. A new organization, Gators for Haiti, came together after the earthquake and raised money. The University Athletic Association generously matched all donations made to that group up to \$50,000.

**RB:** Many refugees from Haiti have resettled in Florida. Has their presence been felt here at UF?

**BH:** Some earthquake victims were treated by Shands. Since Haiti's education infrastructure has been totally demolished, UF has received more applications from Haitians. I have personally received more correspondence from potential applicants since the earthquake. Many UF faculty members in medicine, engineering and forensics also traveled to Haiti to provide relief. IFAS has also received funding to provide valuable scholarships to 8 Haitian graduate students.

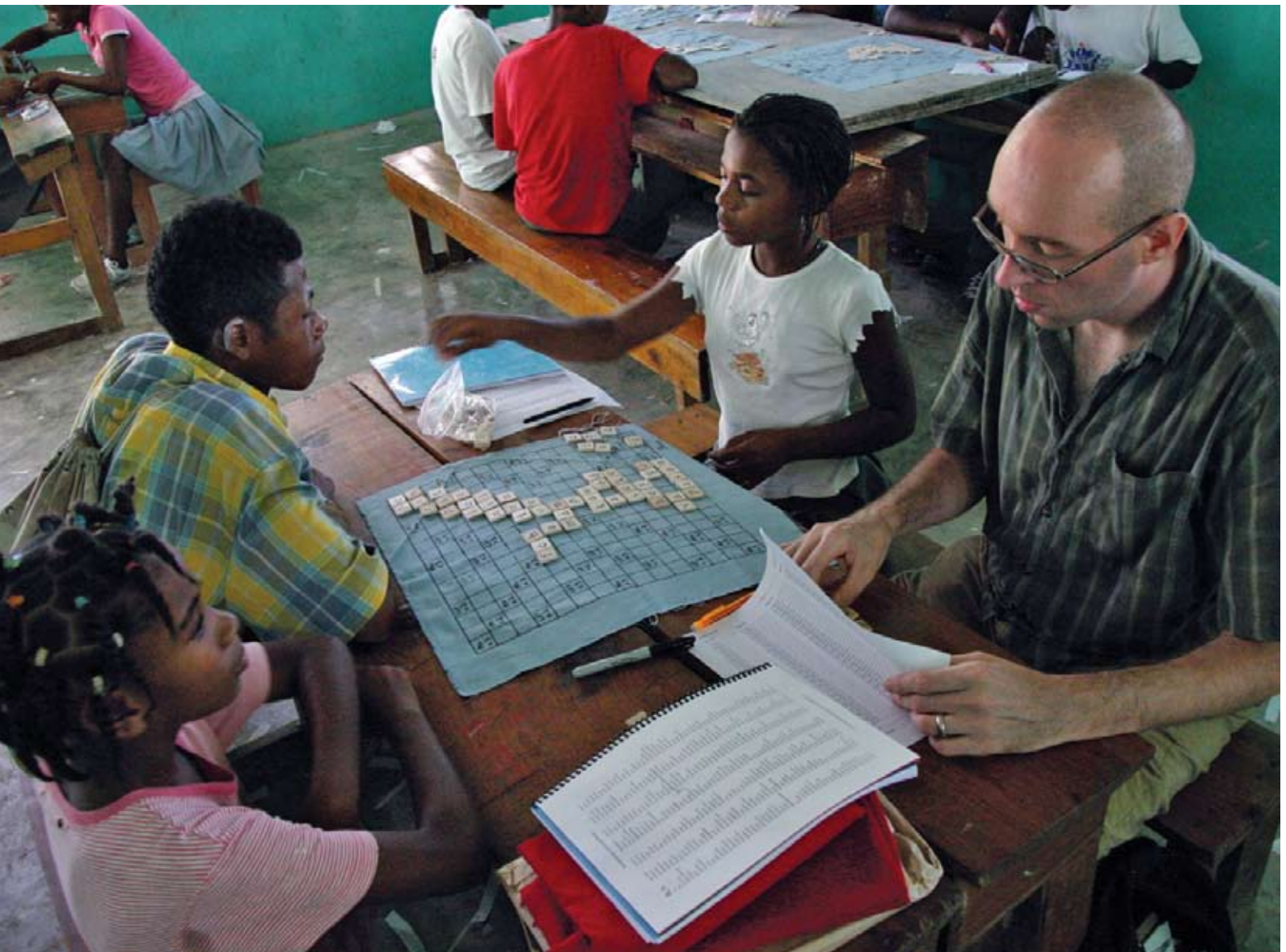
**RB:** In the wake of the disaster, how have you changed your approach to teaching the language and culture of Haiti?

**BH:** Let me first say that conditions in Haiti prior to the earthquake were very difficult; since then, conditions have been catastrophic. As Paul Farmer says, Haiti is now experiencing "an acute on chronic problem" since the earthquake occurred in one of the poorest countries on earth and followed several years of extreme weather disasters, including four hurricanes in 2008

and flooding in 2002, 2003, 2006 and 2007. Haitian Creole and Haitian Studies classes have always emphasized making students aware of Haiti's conditions so that they are well prepared to visit the country and so that they can make contributions to Haiti's betterment. This semester, for example, in Intermediate Haitian Creole we are reading *Kote fanm pa jwenn doktè* (*Where women find no doctor*), a book on ways to preserve health in a place with very few doctors. Since women's health care has been so neglected all over the world, the book does a brilliant job of educating both genders on health disparities and strategies for survival. Some of my students are preparing to apply for a grant that would enable them to give health workshops for women in Haiti based on the book. Another book we're reading which accurately—and painfully—reflects Haiti's conditions is Jean-Robert Cadet's *Restavèk*, which is the autobiography of a child servant in Port-au-Prince. The book brings to light the dire situation faced by the capital's estimated 300,000 child servants.

**RB:** As someone who is interested in developing literacy in Creole, what are some new challenges facing you and others in working on educational issues in Haiti?

**BH:** If Haitian society hopes to make gains in literacy and produce enough educated citizens to reverse poverty and rebuild the nation, then the Haitian state, I think, should implement Haitian Creole majority language education and demote French minority language education. Many Americans do not realize that Haitian Creole is spoken by 100% of the population whereas French is additionally spoken as a second language by a bilingual elite comprised of 5% of the population. Language policy is upside-down in Haiti because a minority group and their minority language is used to educate a totally impoverished population which speaks



a different majority language. For those who don't know, Haitian Creole and French are different languages and are not mutually intelligible. Most of the best school systems in the world use the language of the majority and there is no gulf between the home language and the school language (e.g., Japan, Korea, the United States, Iceland, Denmark, Finland, etc.). Most of the worst school systems in the world use a minority or second language and the denial of the home language from school results in massive failure. Just imagine how graduation rates would plummet if English-speaking American children were required to study the general curriculum in German or Chinese! The idea is absolutely

absurd but this is precisely what Haitian children confront! So, I would say, that until this fundamental injustice is rectified, one cannot reasonably expect any improvement in Haiti's literacy rate (which is about 39%). The good news is that since the 1970s a legion of devoted Haitian Creolists has been preparing the way for the promotion of Haitian Creole in Haitian schools by publishing more and more high quality books in the language.

**RB:** I know that you have spent time in Haiti to conduct research on Haitian Creole. How has your research been impacted by the events?

**BH:** Before and after the earthquake, my research agenda has been to

publish works that include the Haitian Creole language. The instrumentalization and empowerment of the Haitian Creole language is the very basis for progress in Haiti. Haitian Creole was and remains limited in Haitian schools and so, in that respect, the same struggle remains. I would also say that the earthquake exposes the systemic inequality and inefficiency of Haitian education in the sense that now you have hundreds of thousands of homeless children attempting to gain an education in a foreign language that 80% of Haiti's school teachers master inadequately! And they are attempting to do this impossible feat under tents, trees and in the dust. The situation is much bleaker than it needs to be due to Haiti's exclusivist language policy. Of course, the earthquake places more pressure on Haitians and Haitianists to seek improvements to Haiti's age-old problems. I thank God that many of my dearest friends and collaborators in Haiti were spared by the earthquake and my work with them continues.



## 2011 CARTER CONFERENCE

# AFRICAN INDEPENDENCE(S): CULTURES OF MEMORY, CELEBRATIONS & CONTESTATIONS

ORGANIZED BY THE CENTER FOR AFRICAN STUDIES WITH THE SUPPORT OF THE FRANCE-FLORIDA RESEARCH INSTITUTE AND THE CENTER FOR THE HUMANITIES AND THE PUBLIC SPHERE.

This year's conference focuses on the commemorations and celebrations of the fiftieth anniversary of African political independences that are taking place during 2010. This is an opportunity to examine the cultures of memory, the commemorations and celebrations on the continent by looking at specific practices, acts and discourses located in domains as varied as literature, anthropology, architecture, history and politics. The anniversary is an occasion for African countries to assess, evaluate, imagine or re-invent their fifty years of political emancipation. In the first events to date, celebrations have been structured around key axes and gestures, including memorialization, rehabilitation, revision, clarification and elucidation.

Besides the obvious museal and monumentality culture emerging from the different projects recommended by national commissions, the celebrations and commemorations take many other forms and focuses, often with ambivalence such as the sensitive rehabilitation of the national army, the calibration of religious distribution in an attempt to generate new "apostolic fervor", the reevaluation of contested political figures and, of course, the mixed assessment of the social and political achievements since 1960. The celebrations and commemorations are also culturally expansive

and include several cinema, arts and dance festivals and literary symposia, which contrast and autonomize national literary histories through the canonization of diverse local literary figures and practices. The celebrations are also located outside the continent under the initiative of the migrant communities. Among European countries, France has decided to make 2010 "l'année de l'Afrique" at a moment of intense debate about the African presence in France.

However, the euphoria and optimistic tone visible in most communications

related to the celebrations are also often tempered by skeptical voices contesting the relevance of the celebrations, disputing the orientations, themes, and modes of celebration, criticizing the political figures convoked to personify the transition and the appropriateness of the selected historical episodes. The analysis of the failures of political development and social achievements contrasts with the buoyant discourse related to the political emancipation and critics do not hesitate to denounce opportunistic political and artistic initiatives.

The proposed conference seeks to further examine the commemorative practices, the modes of celebrations emerging from these national events and the tensions related to them. It aims to critically understand how "independence" is perceived and engaged with today, and evaluate the different imaginaries associated with it. What sort of historical narratives emerge from the commemorations? Do celebrations focus mainly on national realities or are they instead opportunities to imagine new pan-African realities, new forms of cosmopolitanism and/or promising global realities?

These are some of the questions around which the dialogue will be constructed and it is our hope that the interdisciplinary nature of the conference will allow us to augment, re-actualize or contrast the existing reflections on commemoration practices and discourses in the continent.

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## STUDENT EXCHANGE AGREEMENT BETWEEN UF & UNIVERSITÉ DE RENNES 2, FRANCE

Cécilia Launat, our first exchange student from Université de Rennes 2, has recently completed her Masters Program in Rennes. After her stay at UF she wrote an M.A. thesis focusing on the teaching of French in the US. Upon completion of her degree, Cecilia was awarded a Fulbright fellowship to teach French at another American University. Hopefully our UF students will take the opportunity to study abroad in the context of our exchange program with Université de Rennes 2 in the future.

# INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP: **VARIÉTÉS DU FRANÇAIS EN AMÉRIQUE DU NORD**

Last March an international workshop *Variétés du français en Amérique du Nord* was held at UF in the context of the double component course on the same topic taught by Dr. Hélène Blondeau. The event was organized in collaboration with Dr. Sylvie Dubois from Louisiana State University and sponsored by the University of Florida's France-Florida Research Institute, the LSU Center for French and Francophone Studies, and the Alliance française of Gainesville. In this context we had the pleasure of hearing Dr. Françoise Gadet from Paris X on the topic *La palette variationnelle du français*. In addition Dr. Sylvie Dubois presented her research on Cajun French and Dr. Blondeau gave a paper on longitudinal variation in Montreal French. Dr. Gadet also gave a second lecture in English. The undergraduate and graduate students of Prof. Blondeau were involved at all levels in the preparation of the event.



## SCIENCES PO EXCHANGE PROGRAM UF'S RECIPROCAL EXCHANGE PROGRAM WITH **L'INSTITUT D'ÉTUDES POLITIQUES (SCIENCES PO)**

Since 2002, UF has been a partner university with the internationally renowned *Institut d'études politiques* in Paris. One of only 61 American universities and colleges to have a reciprocal exchange agreement with *Sciences Po*, one of France's finest institutions of higher learning (*grandes écoles*), UF sends 4 to 6 students per year to this center of excellence in the social sciences. In turn, UF welcomes qualified *Sciences Po* students to campus. Academic director, Dr. Carol Murphy, in cooperation with Dr. Martin McKellar of the UF International Center, is responsible for selecting those students who will represent UF at *Sciences Po*. For the Academic Year 2010–2011, the following students have been selected: Catherine Pinkham, a Journalism major seeking a concentration in Political Science and a minor in French; Joshua Villanueva, an International Studies major and a University Scholar working with UF Professor Abdoulaye Kane on North African immigration in France; Sixtine Gurrey, a dual degree major in Journalism and French, with a minor in European Union Studies; Erika Marcus, a double major in History and Economics, with a minor in French; Alexander Salamanca, a sophomore dual major in Political Science and Psychology. Students pay tuition to their home institution and are able to apply scholarships, such as Bright Futures, to the program fees.

# NEW SUMMER **COURSES** UF IN PARIS 2011

**At the Institut Catholique. June 27–July 30.**

**FRE 4956: Hip Hop Culture and French Language.** Since the end of World War II, France has been profoundly impacted by the arrival of significant immigrant groups from North and West Africa. In recent years, immigrant youths have formed gangs and have taken protest and sometimes violence to the streets; these protestors were derogatorily characterized by Nicolas Sarkozy as "la racaille," (street rabble). Since the early 1990s, rap music has emerged as the musical style and cultural force most closely associated with immigrant youth. In addition to studying scholarly work on urban culture and ethnomusicology, this class examines French rap as a way to gain insights into the culture, language, society, and psychology of second generation immigrant youth in France. Students will earn 6 UF credits. All interested are encouraged to contact Ben Hebblethwaite at [hebble@ufl.edu](mailto:hebble@ufl.edu).

**At the Paris Research Center: June 13–July 22. FRW 3930: PARIS: The Structure of the City in Modern French Literature.**

In modern French literature, the city plays many roles: marketplace, spectacle, classroom, battleground; the site of triumph and failure, of glorious dreams and grinding realities. From the heights of the artist's garret to the depths of the criminal underworld, we will explore literary representations of Paris as many-layered and multiple and see the city not just as the story's setting but as its hero. Our course will feature visits to the homes and haunts of major French authors as well as explorations of the places famously featured in their works. We will alternate between classroom discussions and site visits, including trips to Voltaire's and Perec's favorite cafés and to the homes of Sévigné, Balzac, and Proust, as well as walking tours of the various neighborhoods described in the texts we are reading. In addition, we will enjoy several museum visits to learn more about the cultural, historical, and aesthetic context of each author. To complete the Advanced French program, students will choose from one of two other courses (History: Postwar Paris; Art History: Let Them Eat Cake? Art in the Age of Marie Antoinette) to earn 6 UF credits. All interested are encouraged to contact Rori Bloom at [ribloom@ufl.edu](mailto:ribloom@ufl.edu).

To register for summer courses, visit [www.abroad.ufic.ufl.edu](http://www.abroad.ufic.ufl.edu)

# NEWS FROM THE **FRANCE-FLORIDA RESEARCH INSTITUTE (FFRI)** *from the Director, Dr. Carol Murphy*

In June 2010, the FFRI received a grant of 20,000 Euros from the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, to continue its programming on the UF campus. Recognized as a center of excellence in French Studies in 2002 by the French Cultural Services of the French Embassy in Washington D.C., the FFRI is one of 14 U.S. institutions of higher learning to enjoy this status and financial support.

Events for the 2010–2011 academic year will begin on October 21. Dr. Susan Harrow, Professor of French and Deputy Head of the School of Modern Languages at the University of Bristol in the United Kingdom will deliver an illustrated lecture on “Zola’s Paris and the Spaces of Proto-Modernism.” A specialist in the later-nineteenth and twentieth centuries, especially poetry and the novel with a particular focus on the interrelation of literary modernism and visual culture, Dr. Harrow’s most recent publications include *Zola, the Body Modern: Pressures and Prospects of Representation* (Legenda, 2009). Her seminar will complement several Fall course offerings, including FRW 4552–6556, “The Paris of Balzac and Zola,” taught by Dr. Murphy and Dr. Héloïse Séailles’s second-year French program where students are reading some of Zola’s short stories.

On Thursday, October 28, the FFRI is pleased to welcome Dr. Jacob Soll, Professor of History at Rutgers University, Camden, who will address “The Benedictine and the Labyrinth: The Enlightenment Library and the Problem of Universal Knowledge.” Professor Soll, currently the recipient of a Guggenheim Fellowship for his research on Enlightenment libraries, has authored two books on intelligence in the court of Louis XIV and on early modern political criticism. His lecture is part of the “Imagining the Library: Books in Public Life from late Antiquity to the Digital Age Speakers Series,” organized by Dr. Bonnie Effros, Rothman Chair and Director of the Center for the Humanities and the Public Sphere.

Other events during the Fall semester include a lecture on November 1, “Living in a Glass House,”



**Consul General of France in Miami, Gaël de Maisonneuve, discusses his career in diplomacy with UF faculty and students.**

by Mr. Robert Rubin, an architectural historian. Mr. Rubin is the owner of the *Maison de Verre* in Paris, an important monument of early 20<sup>th</sup>-century modernism, designed by Pierre Chareau. The FFRI is pleased to co-sponsor this event with Dr. Nancy Clark in the School of Architecture in the College of Design, Construction and Planning.

During the Spring 2011 semester, the FFRI will partner with the Center for Women’s Studies and Gender Research, in organizing a conference on “Simone de Beauvoir: Legacies,” February 10–11. Professor Toril Moi, James B. Duke Professor of Literature and Romance Studies, Professor of English, Philosophy, and Theater Studies at Duke University, will be the keynote speaker. Other participants include Professors Nancy Bauer (Tufts University), Judy Coffin (University of Texas) and Mary Beth Mader (University of Memphis) who will address Beauvoir’s legacy as a philoso-

pher. French program professors Sylvie Blum, Carol Murphy, and Brigitte Weltman-Aron will speak on different aspects of Beauvoir the writer of fiction, essays, correspondence, and memoirs.

Also in February, Drs. Alioune Sow and Brigitte Weltman-Aron will be the conveners of the Gwendolen M. Carter Conference, February 25–26, organized by the Center for African Studies. The FFRI is pleased to sponsor the keynote speaker, Dr. Cécile Canut, of the Université Paris Descartes.

Please check our website for updates on these events and other activities that we will be organizing in 2010–2011 (<http://www.clas.ufl.edu/France-Florida>). Bodo Randrianasolo is the Program Assistant for the FFRI and members of the Advisory Board include Drs. Jessi Aaron, William Calin, Ben Hebblethwaite, Alioune Sow, and Brigitte Weltman-Aron.



# NEWS FROM THE PARIS RESEARCH CENTER

*from the Director, Dr. Gayle Zachmann*

The University of Paris Research Center is delighted to share news of the past year's symposia, scholars-in-residence and study abroad programs. A unit expressly designed to create and facilitate international initiatives across campus and across the disciplines, the Paris Research Center is an integral and exciting European component in the University of Florida's commitment to international education and academic excellence.

It is a pleasure to announce that the Paris Research Center has now welcomed well over 100 UF scholars, hosted over 1000 international scholars at UF-sponsored research events and facilitated study abroad development from all corners of the campus. The facilitation of research for developing individual and group publications and projects significantly fosters the creation of new courses for UF students. Since the 2004 initiation of our innovative course programming, we have brought over 1,100 students to Paris for study and research.

The PRC ran or developed more than 20 courses this year, including several courses from the French Section: *Socio-linguistique dans la ville: Interaction et variation* was taught by Dr. Hélène Blondeau as part of the 2010 Intensive May Intersession Study Abroad Program; Dr. William Calin taught *The Knight, The Lady and The King: Courtly Love and Chivalry in Medieval French Romance* as part of the Honors in Paris 2010 Spring Semester program, and PRC Director

Gayle Zachmann taught *Modern Paris and Contemporary Culture* during the Fall 2009 International Affairs and the Public Sphere program and the 2010 Honors in Paris Program. Additionally, during summer 2010, the PRC ran an Intensive Intermediate French program, a student-centered communicative language class that integrates the experiences, observations and impressions of students living with French host families in Paris.

In addition to its regular programming, the Paris Research Center regularly invites UF and guest scholars to enhance courses and intellectual life for students and on-site faculty, as well as to promote visibility for the University of Florida, its scholars and its international initiatives. AY 2009–10 speakers included:

**Jean-Pierre Beaudoin**, Director, Groupe i&e, international public relations firm

**Lieutenant Colonel Christian D. Chapman**, Defense policy advisor, US Mission to NATO

**Richard Freedman**, Spokesperson to the President of the European Parliament

**Jean-Pierre Giovenco**, Secretary General, *Le Monde*

**Julian Jackson**, Author and professor, Queen Mary, University of London.

**Ricky Leacock**, Documentary film director, pioneer of Direct Cinema and Cinéma Vérité

**Daniel Maximin**, Writer; recipient of the Grand Prix de l'Académie Française

**Robert McAnney**, Regional Security Officer and former minister-councilor to the U.S. Embassy in Moscow

**Valérie Panis-Cendrowicz**, Education and Culture Directorate-General, European Commission

**William Ramsay**, Deputy Executive Director, International Energy Agency, former US Ambassador to the Republic of Congo

**Bob Swaim**, Film director, actor, screenwriter and director of the international department of the Ecole Internationale de Création Audiovisuelle et de Réalisation

**Colonel T. Bruce Sweeney**, Attaché de Défense, U.S. Embassy in Paris

**Ricardo Tejada**, Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development

During the 2010 Spring Semester, the Paris Research Center hosted the atelier "Migration and Gender in Public and Private Places." This workshop and cultural exchange was developed in conjunction with EHESS (Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales). Also, in the spring, the PRC also showcased the work of award-winning photographer and UF professor Barbara Jo Revelle in a special presentation: *Between the System and the Street: The Work of Barbara Jo Revelle*.

In the summer of 2010, the PRC was pleased to present the sixth edition of its annual workshop: "Cultural Production in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century." This year's edition "La science à l'oeuvre," featured participants from American and European institutions, including Dr. Gayle Zachmann and Dr. William Calin.

# NEWS FROM THE ALLIANCE FRANÇAISE

*Un petit mot de l'Alliance française de Gainesville, Florida!*

Depuis 2005, l'Alliance française (AF) s'est développée à un rythme accéléré et imprévu. Nous comptons maintenant plus de 130 membres; l'AF gère aussi un fichier de plus de 300 contacts. Nous sommes devenus un forum de rencontre pour francophiles et francophones, jeunes et moins jeunes, tous habitant les vibrantes communautés de Gainesville et Ocala.

Donc parler français «en dehors d'une salle de classe» à Gainesville est une réalité! Cette réussite est largement due à l'enthousiasme et au dynamisme d'une équipe superbe qui travaille bénévolement et sans relâche pour répondre aux objectifs que poursuit le «Réseau Mondial» des AF: promouvoir la langue française et les cultures française et francophone à travers maintes activités.

Entre 2005 et 2010, nous avons promu les activités suivantes:

Les traditionnelles: Café Conversation, Fête de la Bastille, Fête des Vendanges  
Les sportives: Randonnées du dimanche et Pétanque

Les culinaires: Galette des rois, Crêpes et cidre de la Chandeleur

Les culturelles: Nuit du musée, Fête de la Musique et participation au Festival du Film Français organisé par Dr. Sylvie Blum

"Le coin des enfants", "Pardon my French" avec la collaboration des lycées de Gainesville et des "mini-classes" de français

Pour clôturer cet automne 2010, joignez-vous à l'AF pour célébrer la "NATIONAL FRENCH WEEK-FRENCH FILM FESTIVAL 2010" en "joint-venture" avec le Cinéma de l'Hippodrome, le centre B'nai Israel et la Bibliothèque du Comté d'Alachua!

Pour en savoir d'avantage, cliquez sur [www.afgainesville.org](http://www.afgainesville.org)

Bien amicalement,  
Danièle Buchler, Présidente  
Bernadette César-Lee, Vice-Présidente  
Anne White, Secrétaire

# FACULTY NEWS

**Theresa Antes:** Dr. Theresa Antes has had a busy and productive year. Her introductory French textbook, *À vous!: The Global French Experience* coauthored with Dr. Véronique Anover of California State University at San Marcos, is moving into a second edition, and so the past academic year has been spent revising content, adding new cultural material, creating entirely new sections to teach listening strategies, and generally reconsidering the scope and sequence of the text to achieve better balance in the chapters than in the first edition. The second edition will launch at the ACTFL national conference in late November, with possible adoptions for January 2011. It is expected that most universities will begin using the second edition in the 2011–12 academic year, with UF among them.

In addition, Dr. Antes was invited to become a book reviewer for both *Studies in Second Language Acquisition* and *The French Review* this past year, focusing in particular on books in French linguistics/second language acquisition. To date, she has completed a book review for both journals, and looks forward to more professional service in the future. At the same time, she has served as liaison at UF for a study conducted by colleagues at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and funded by the Department of Education. In this capacity, she aided in the collection of survey data from students in some twenty languages, at the beginning and intermediate levels. This study, which aims to determine students' goals and attitudes concerning language study and the national standards, involves data collection on eight campuses nationwide. UF was chosen to participate because of the wide number of languages taught here, and the critical mass of students in each of these languages.

Also in the realm of professional service, Dr. Antes continues on an eight-member advisory committee (four from the secondary and four from the post-

secondary levels nationwide) aiding the College Board with the rewriting of the French AP language and culture curriculum and examination. This Curriculum Development and Assessment Committee meets periodically (virtually or in person) to provide input as the College Board attempts to make the French AP course and exam conform to the national standards for foreign language education. Finally, at UF, Dr. Antes is teaching a new course this semester: French in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. This course examines how and why the French language is evolving—lexically, phonologically, morphologically, syntactically, etc.—as we enter the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

**Hélène Blondeau:** My recent Enhancement Scholarship award took me over the summer to Montreal, where I have initiated a new research project on language variation and ethnicity in Quebec French, and to Cambridge, UK, where my first results have been presented at the Association for French Language Studies Conference. This paper *Pour un virage pluriethnique de la sociolinguistique montréalaise* is the result of a collaborative effort with Michael Friesner from the Université du Québec à Montréal. In this context I am also supervising two undergraduate university scholars interested in researching 21<sup>st</sup> Century Quebec French. I am also pleased to report a forthcoming chapter *Le citoyen et la variation* for the book *Une histoire épistolaire de la Louisiane* edited by Sylvie Dubois (Presses de l'Université Laval). In addition I have been busy organizing two symposia for national conferences: *La variation sociolinguistique en contexte de contact dans les Amériques* (with Naomi Nagy, Canadian Association for Applied Linguistics, Montreal, June 2010) and *Insight into the development of sociolinguistic competence* (in collaboration with Katherine Rehner, American Association for Applied Linguistics, Atlanta, March 2010). My poster *The rise of TU in the context of an internal reconfiguration of*

*generic pronouns in Quebec and in France* in collaboration with Jingya Zhong was presented in Ottawa at the sociolinguistic conference NWAV 38 last November. I also taught for the second time my intensive course *Sociolinguistics in the City: Interaction and Variation* at the Paris Research Center. My group of students went not only to Paris but also to Rennes where I organized a workshop in urban sociolinguistics in collaboration with Thierry Bulot and Claire Lesacher from the Université de Rennes 2. On top of this I am pleased to report that I have been awarded tenure and promotion. As the new undergraduate advisor for French I am eager to work with our French majors, double majors and French minors.

**Rori Bloom:** In the past year I have published 2 articles: "Monkey-girls of Old Regime France: Babiole and Ourika" in *Nottingham French Studies* and "Un *Sopha rose brodé d'argent*: Crébillon fils and the Rococo" in *The Eighteenth Century: Theory and Interpretation*. At present, I am working on a new project on description in the tales of Mme d'Aulnoy and will present some of my thoughts on that topic at the annual meeting of the American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies in March 2011. I am integrating some of this work into my teaching by using various fairy tales in my Composition and Stylistics course. At the same time, I am trying to enhance another of my courses, Introduction to French Literature II, with the incorporation of more music, paintings, and films. Finally, I am also working on developing the syllabus and accompanying site visits for an Advanced French course (Paris: *The Structure of the City in Modern French Literature*), which I hope to teach at the Paris Research Center in Summer 2011.

**Sylvie Blum:** Together with Professor Miriam Zach, our new class was accepted for *Correspondences between music and texts in French literature* by the UF Honors Pro-



gram. It will be team-taught in the near future. The course introduces literary texts and musical compositions that have been inspired and composed by major French literary figures and composers. The class plans to stimulate an exchange between two disciplines that are not necessarily combined in the classroom. Through a selection of reading and listening, as well as analysis, we will cover the correspondences between music and texts in 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century France. Several genres will be covered: In literature, poetry, theatre, short novel, and novel; in music: opera, ballet, songs, piano solo and jazz. During the past academic year, I lectured on Anaïs Nin and her vision of Paris (PAMLA) as well as on Simone de Beauvoir, when I attended the "Simone de Beauvoir: Hier, aujourd'hui et demain" 18<sup>eme</sup> colloque international de la Simone de Beauvoir Society in Cagliari, Sardinia (June 2010). I am currently teaching my European cinema class and experimenting with new media technology and the creation of a weekly blog. Last semester, the implementation of a 'fanzine' or 'zine' in my Grammar and Composition class was a truly enriching experience and led to stimulating final projects that were exhibited in part at the annual LLC award ceremony in April. I recently became a UF Fellow in the Sustainability Prairie Project.

**William Calin:** I spent 2009–10 away from campus. Fall semester I completed a year's research leave as a Fellow at the Centre for Reformation and Renaissance Studies, University of Toronto. For the spring semester I taught an Honors Seminar at our Paris Research Center: *The Knight, the Lady, and the King: Medieval French Courtly Romance*. This was a wonderful pedagogical experience, just like the one in 2007. We traveled together to Reims, Troyes, and the Hôtel de Cluny medieval museum in Paris.

Publications: One article on the Occitan Baroque: "Lecture de Michel Tronc," in *La Voix occitane*, ed. Guy Latry (Bordeaux: Presses Universitaires de Bordeaux, 2009),

1039–47; and a second, more substantial article on the French presence in medieval Scotland: "The *dit amoureux* and the Makars: An Essay on *The Kingis Quair* and *The Testament of Cresseid*," *Florilegium* 25 (2008): 217–50. I expect to send off to the press my current book project—*The French Tradition and the Literature of Medieval and Renaissance Scotland*—by next March. Of course, I am pondering a more jazzy title, something like *A Bed of Thistles and Roses? or From Paris to Edinburgh: By Very Slow Boat?*

Papers and Lectures: "Postcolonialism and Medievalism: How French Regional Cultures/Literatures Reshape Their Past and Present," at the 24th International

Conference on Studies in Medievalism, Siena College; "The Knight, the Lady, and the King: Courtly Love in Medieval Literature," public lecture at Marquette University; "The French Tradition and Earlier Scots Literature: Problems of Mediocrity and Misogyny," public lectures at the University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee and at the University of Toronto; "Translation? Adaptation? Problems in Interpreting *Lancelot of the Laik* and the *Lancelot en prose*," at a colloquium at Oxford University on Franco-English Poetic Translation(s), 1350–1550; "Medieval Literature and Modern Celtic Culture: The High Road and the Low

*continued on page 10*

## NEW FACULTY AMANDA VINCENT



Our new lecturer, Dr. Amanda Shoaf Vincent, comes to us from Penn State where she recently completed her Ph.D. in French with a dissertation on the planning and design of public parks in Paris. Amanda has also taught at the Université de Lyon II and has done dissertation research in Paris under the auspices of the Bourse Chateaubriand. Here at UF, she is teaching FRE 2201 (Intermediate French II) and FRE 3440 (Commercial French) and looks forward to teaching a variety of courses in our undergraduate program. She is eager to strengthen ties between the French program and the College of Business and is hoping to administer the Diplôme du Français Professionnel exam from the Chambre de Commerce et d'Industrie de Paris in spring 2011 so that UF students may earn an official certificate documenting their competency in French. At the same time, Amanda continues to pursue her research on the concept of sustainability in France, which has evolved among French architects to become a centerpiece of their professional identity. She is planning to turn her dissertation into a book and recently published an article on the Parc de Bercy in Paris's Twelfth Arrondissement in the Spring 2010 issue of *Landscape Journal*. At present, she, her husband (James Vincent, Assistant Professor of Accounting in the College of Business), and their son Coren (6 months) are busy preparing to move from temporary accommodations into their new house in Gainesville. In the meantime, they are enjoying the natural beauty of North Florida, the enthusiasm of UF students, and the warm welcome of their new colleagues.

Road," at the 45th International Congress on Medieval Studies, Western Michigan University.

I co-directed with Gayle Zachmann a doctoral dissertation: Sandrine Savona, "La figure du double: Etude de récits de Théophile Gautier," and served on a doctoral committee at the Université de Pau et des pays de l'Adour: Corinne Lissalde, "Théodore Aubanel et Ludovic Legré: Histoire d'une amitié littéraire; édition de leur correspondance." And am currently directing doctoral dissertations here at UF by Lakhdar Choudar, Audrey Viguier, and Laila Fares. The future: If you have been following the news: No Koran-burning in sight!

**Benjamin Hebblethwaite:** Over the last academic year, Benjamin Hebblethwaite published the articles, "Adverb Code Switching among Miami's Haitian Creole-English Second Generation" in *Bilingualism: Language and Cognition*, 13 (4), 2010, 409–428, and "L'asymétrie et la bidirectionnalité dans l'alternance codique du créole haïtien-anglais de la 2ème génération à Miami: l'influence sociolinguistique de la syntaxe bilingue" in *Cahiers de Linguistique*, 34 (2), 2009, 103–126. His book, *Une saison en enfer / Yon sezon matchyavèl* (a translation of Arthur Rimbaud's 1873 poem), was edited, translated and introduced in Haitian Creole and French in collaboration with Jacques Pierre, Mathilde Lala and Audrey Viguier, and is in press at L'Harmattan in Paris. His article "Haiti, 2010" is in press and will appear in the Encyclopedia of Disaster Relief to be published in January, 2011, by Sage Publications. His edited volume, *Vodou Songs and Texts in Haitian Creole and English* is under contract with Temple University Press and will appear in late 2011. He is also currently working on Haiti's language policy and a grant application to write a beginner and intermediate Haitian Creole textbook.

**Carol Murphy:** Dr. Murphy continues to be the director of the France-Florida Research Institute, while teaching and pursuing research in the department. This Fall, she is teaching a new course to undergraduate and graduate students in French, "The Paris of Balzac and Zola." The course explores representations of the capital city in key novels of both writers, looking at the intersection of history and fiction, as well as the exciting role that Paris played in the nineteenth century's industrial, political, cultural, and urban scenes. She continues her research on twentieth- and twenty-first century authors and has recently published several invited essays: "Etat present: Julien Gracq Studies" for the UK journal *French Studies*, "Sylvie Germain, sculpteur des lieux de mémoire" in *Dalhousie French Studies*, "The Long and the Short of it... Moving Images in Proust and Beckett" (book chapter in *Beckett's Proust/Deleuze's Proust*. Ed. M. Bryden and M. Topping), and "Territorialités gracquiennes" in *Revue des Lettres modernes. Série Julien Gracq*. In January 2010, she was invited to present a paper at the Julien Gracq conference held at the Université de Toulouse Le Mirail. During this academic year, she will present papers on Simone de Beauvoir and Marie Nimier. Dr. Murphy spent the early part of last summer traveling in Brittany and Normandy, on the paths of the Impressionists, Proust, and memorial sites of the Second World War.

**Héloïse Séailles:** I am presently teaching 2200 and 3300. In the 2200 classes, students are reading short stories by Emile Zola. In the 3300 class, we are reading a novel by Roger Martin du Gard. Students are finding that the reading is helping them understand the grammatical structures we study as well as expanding their vocabulary. For the spring semester, I am preparing a FLAC course on Francophone Cities of the World. We will try to discover what sustains the presence of French and

its influence in a post-colonial world by concentrating on five or six particular cities around the globe. Laura Emerson is doing an Honors Thesis with me on the French system of health care as it pertains to maternity and infant care. For the spring of 2012, I am hoping to teach a course which will give background on the fifth Republic and the electoral process in France. We will follow the presidential campaign closely to prepare us for the elections in April and May.

**Alioune Sow:** This year I have published two articles, "Nervous Confessions: Military Memoirs and National Reconciliation in Mali" in *Cahiers d'Etudes Africaines* 197, March 2010 and "Political Intuition and Autobiographies of Childhood" in the Summer 2010 issue of *Biography* 33.3. I presented a paper on "The rehabilitation of Yambo Ouologuem in Mali", at the African Literature Association Annual meeting in Tucson, AZ (March 2010). Another paper titled "Desert narratives: prison memoirs in Mali" was delivered at the African Studies Association Annual Meeting in New Orleans (November 2009). My book manuscript titled *Vestiges and Vertiges: récits d'enfance dans les littératures africaines* has been accepted for publication by the Presses Universitaires d'Artois and will appear in early 2011. I also contributed two entries for the forthcoming *Nouveau Dictionnaire des femmes créatrices* edited by Antoinette Fouque and published by the Editions des Femmes, respectively, on the Malian writer and activist Aminata Traoré and on the Caribbean author Tita Mandeleau. In June 2010, I traveled to Mali to do some preliminary research for a new collaborative project on "South-South migration and literature" with a network of researchers at Ceped, Paris. As part of my graduate seminar on Radical French and Francophone literatures, I organized in Fall 2009 a three-day visit by French writer Sébastien Doubinsky, with generous funding

# EMERITI NEWS

from the FFRI. I have continued to direct three Ph. D. students, one of whom successfully graduated in Spring 2010 with a dissertation on "The rehabilitation of Haitian poet Etzer Vilaire." I am currently organizing, with Dr Weltman-Aron, the Center for African Studies 2011 Carter Conference "African Independence(s): Cultures of Memory, Celebrations and Contestations" to reflect on this year's fiftieth anniversary of many African political independences.

**Brigitte Weltman-Aron:** In 2009–2010, Brigitte Weltman-Aron pursued her work by publishing two articles on the writings of Assia Djebar and Hélène Cixous, two Algerian-born contemporary writers writing in French and presented two conference talks on these writers in December 2009. She also published an article on Suzanne Dracius, a writer from Martinique, and one on the philosopher Jacques Derrida. She gave as well a talk about bad taste in the Enlightenment in December 2009, and one on satire in the work of Voltaire and Rousseau in March 2010. At the University of Florida she participated with other colleagues from the university in a roundtable on Marcel Ophüls' film *The Sorrow and the Pity*. She currently serves as French Graduate Coordinator.

**Gayle Zachmann:** Dr. Gayle Zachmann is currently serving her 8<sup>th</sup> year as Director of the UF Paris Research Center at Columbia University's Reid Hall in Paris. In the 2009–10 academic year, she was once again Coordinator of the PRC International Affairs and the Public Sphere Program and the UF Honors in Paris Spring term program. Dr. Zachmann provides project development consultation for faculty researchers across the disciplines and she regularly lectures and teaches courses on Modern France, French culture and cultural politics, the Parisian Avant-Gardes, literature and the visual arts, and Claude Cahun, Stéphane Mallarmé, and Marcel Schwob. In March,

she attended the 20th and 21st Century French and Francophone Studies International Colloquium in Toronto, where she presented "Enacting Singularity: Performance and the Politics of Culture in the Work of Claude Cahun." She is currently revising a piece to appear in *Contemporary French Civilization* on Claude Cahun and Resistance. In June, Zachmann co-organized the sixth annual edition of the atelier "Cultural Production of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century," where

she presented a paper on Marcel Schwob and the representation of archaeology in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. A paperback edition of Zachmann's *Frameworks for Mallarmé: The 'Photo' and the 'Graphic' of an Interdisciplinary Aesthetic* appeared with the State University of New York Press in 2009, and she is currently working on a new book, and looking forward to another exciting year at the UF Paris Research Center.

**Bernadette Cailler,** Professor Emerita, had two invited articles published in 2010. The first, "Aimé Césaire: a warrior in search of beauty" appeared in *RAL* (Aimé Césaire, 1913–2008: Poet, Politician, Cultural Statesman), Vol. 41. Number 1, Spring, 14–32. The second, written for an international colloquium on the "*Lettre à Maurice Thorez*" by Aimé Césaire, Oct. 24–25, 2007, Centre Césairien, Fort-de-France, Martinique, "'Non à l'ombre': de la *Lettre* aux poètes de *Gloria Victis* 1956—*Budapest* (Césaire, Cummings, Kateb, Okara...)" was published by Centre Césairien d'Etudes et de Recherches/ Editions Alexandrines, Paris. Recently, she has been invited to contribute an essay for a forthcoming issue of *OEuvres et Critiques* devoted to Caribbean and African fiction. In Spring 2010, she participated in international conferences respectively held at Florida State University (with a paper on Walt Whitman and Edouard Glissant), and at the University of Sousse, Tunisia (with a paper examining the use of diaries, speeches, letters—both fictive and authentic—in works by Valentin Y. Mudimbe and Raphaël Confiant). For Fall 2010, she has received invitations to present papers at two consecutive international conferences. Her first paper (for a conference at Université Laval, Québec, October 6–12, 2010) deals with some aspects of Patrick Chamoiseau's fiction. For the second conference at Duke University, held in homage to Congolese-American creative writer and scholar Valentin Y. Mudimbe, her presentation is titled: "Pour une vie autre: *Réflexions sur la vie quotidienne* (1972) de V. Y. Mudimbe."

**Raymond Gay-Crosier:** Because 2010 was the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Camus's death, an unusually large number of colloquia have been devoted to his work. Prof. Emeritus Raymond Gay-Crosier gave the keynote addresses at the following international conferences: March 22, Florida State University, "Re-editing Camus: Key Methodological Issues"; April 8, New York University, "La négation affirmative: paradigme de la pensée camusienne"; November 4, Université catholique d'Angers, "Les *Carnets*: une conscience en action"; November 20, Dokkyo University, Tokyo, "Un triangle complémentaire: laïcité, sainteté, mesure"; and a round table on "Albert Camus au présent." All presentations will be published in various venues. Updates and minor corrections for the third edition of vols. I and II of Camus's *Œuvres complètes* in the new Pléiade edition were completed in January 2010.



# ALUMNI UPDATES

**Peggy Defay** (B.A. 2008): Peggy writes: In May of 2008, I obtained a Bachelor's in French from the University of Florida. In my opinion, with a BA in French, the possibilities are endless. With my love for languages and my passion to help people, my goals were and are to establish international connections to sustainably develop programs that will combat health issues and poverty.

After graduation, I served as a volunteer with the United States Peace Corps. During my service with the Peace Corps in Namibia, I had the opportunity to use my skills and knowledge acquired during my time at UF to successfully create programs that benefited my community as a whole. During my time in Namibia, I worked as a Health Volunteer. My primary assignment was to do health and HIV/AIDS education but I was not limited to just that. I worked mostly at a school in a village in northern Namibia which gave me the opportunity to integrate better in the village. Working with the Peace Corps gives you the opportunity to develop programs or activities that best fit your community, therefore I worked on gardening and sports activities. Although I was not placed in a French speaking country, my knowledge of the French language and in learning languages in general helped me to better acquire the local languages in Namibia.

Unfortunately, due to the earthquake in Haiti, my time in Namibia was cut short. With the immense need after the disaster, the best and one of the hardest decisions for me to make was to leave Namibia. Since then, I had the opportunity to travel to Haiti to assist with some of the relief efforts. I spent my days

there volunteering in the hospital and around the small town of Pignon where there are many refugees from the capital. Since I do not have any professional background, I was mostly assisting with basic needs and just lending a hand wherever it was needed.

In the future, I hope to obtain a masters degree in Global/International Health. With this degree I hope to continue my work in underprivileged communities, one day return to Namibia, and help with the development of Haiti.

**John Fields** (M.A. 1997): John Fields has been elected as the Florida chapter president of the American Association of Teachers of French for the term 2010–2012. He continues as the administrator of the National French Exam for Florida and Puerto Rico, a position begun in collaboration with George Diller in 2007. This summer, he spent the month of July in Quebec City studying at the Université Laval where he had received a scholarship to participate in their annual Stage en didactique et société québécoises. He is active in Jacksonville's Francophone community with current projects involving the Alliance française and Sister Cities Jacksonville-Nantes committee. He is currently working on a project to commemorate the 450th anniversary of Ft. Caroline, founded by the French in 1564 in present-day Jacksonville. He is also translating a musical drama, *Majigéen*, detailing the story of Anna Kingsley, which will be performed in Nantes in summer 2011.

**E. Joe Johnson** (Ph.D. 2001): E. Joe Johnson is Associate Professor of French and Interim Head of the

Department of Humanities at Clayton State University in Metro Atlanta. He is currently serving as the vice president of the Southeastern American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies. His most recent publications include: a classroom edition of Denis Diderot's *La Religieuse* (Newark, DE: Molière & Co, 2010), with introduction, footnotes, and glossing; a co-edited collection for which he wrote the introduction and authored one essay: E. Joe Johnson and Byron R. Wells, eds. *An American Voltaire: Essays in Memory of J. Patrick Lee* (Newcastle upon Tyne: Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2009). His essay "Can Women and Men Be Friends? Writings on Friendship in France's Ancien Régime, and C. B. Fagan's Comedy *L'Amitié rivale de l'amour* (1735)," is currently in press in volume 17 of *1650–1850: Ideas, Aesthetics, and Inquiries in the Early Modern Era*. In addition to his traditional scholarship, Joe continues to publish many translations of French and Belgian comic books and graphic novels. Most recently, he has begun work on a translation of the marquis de Sade's *Aline et Valcour* and is also preparing the formal proposal for an MLA volume: *Approaches to Teaching the Abbé Prévost's Manon Lescaut*.

**Cynthia Lees** (Ph. D. 2006) is beginning her fifth year as Assistant Professor of French and Foreign Language Education at the University of Delaware where she teaches French language and literature classes, pedagogy courses, and the Capstone experience for Foreign Language Majors in the senior year. Her research interests focus on Franco-American literature and culture of New England. She published an article in the Spring/

Summer 2010 issue of Quebec Studies on "Performances of Franco-American identity in Mirbah: A Portrait of Precious Blood parish," Emma Dumas's chronicle of the French-speaking parish of Holyoke, Massachusetts. Cynthia will be reading a paper in November 2010 at the Biennial Conference of the American Council for Quebec Studies in Burlington, Vermont, on a very different Franco-American author, one who condemns her French-Canadian heritage and refuses to embrace the hegemonic discourse of the Franco-American elite. The paper is entitled "Grace de Repentigny Metalious: the ultimate iconoclast of a Québec d'en bas." Cynthia lives in Newark with her husband Daniel, an English professor at UD.

**Kristen Livera** (French minor, B.A. 2010) has secured a teaching position in a French Primary school in Poitiers, and is preparing to teach English to French pupils for 2010–2011.

**Jonathan Scott Parker** (B.A. 2003): Acadia recently adopted former student Scott Parker into its cultural family. Parker, a 2003 graduate in Interdisciplinary Studies (French and Film Studies), participated in the 2010 Young Ambassadors Forum organized by the Center for Francophonie in the Americas in early August. This eight-day event explored the history and the modern role of French in the Americas. Sixty participants from 18 to 35-years-old traveled to Moncton, New Brunswick, to engage in discussions on how to strengthen the French-speaking community in the Americas. Other highlights of the event were a key-note address by Goncourt Award winning author Antoine Maillet and a presentation of the play *Haïti, cri d'espoir* performed by Comédie sans Frontières d'Haïti. "The forum was an astonishing opportunity to learn about the many different communities that make up the francophonie of the Americas. French is very much a living,

evolving language in Canada, the US and the countries of South America and the Caribbean," Scott notes. Dr. Sylvie Blum was Parker's senior thesis advisor at UF.

**Thomas Patterson** (M.A. 2003) After seven years of living in Taiwan and China, where he filled roles as a French teacher, a copywriter and a corporate communications officer, Thomas Patterson has returned to the US. He has just enrolled in the Master of Science in Foreign Service program at Georgetown University. He plans to continue his studies of Chinese foreign policy, Taiwanese domestic politics and Mandarin Chinese at Georgetown, combining a Certificate in Asian Studies with his MS degree. He is contemplating a career in government or media relations, or at a government bureau such as the State Department.

**Barbara Petrosky** (Ph.D. 2006): Last year, Barbara Petrosky presented three papers. Two on Pierre Loti at the MLA in Philadelphia and at the SAMLA in Atlanta, as well as one on Émile Zola in Pittsburgh during the Pennsylvania Foreign Language Conference organized by Duquesne University. She published two articles: "Le Château de la Belle-au-Bois-Dormant: Pierre Loti écologiste avant la lettre" in the *Bulletin de l'Association des Amis de Pierre Loti*. Paris: Juin, 2010. As well as "Le Rêve d'Émile Zola: Une réécriture de La Légende dorée" in *Rondas Literarias de Pittsburgh*. Duquesne University 2008–2009. She also published two book reviews for the *South Atlantic Review* and the *French Review*. This semester she is teaching a French Business course as well as French and Spanish language courses. She will be organizing a French Film Festival in the Spring. She will be up for tenure this year at the University of Pittsburgh Johnstown. Her son, Olivier, turned 6 in July and knows how to read French and English. He is starting first grade and loves it.

**David Petrosky** (Ph.D. 2009) in August 2009, David defended his dissertation, *Studies in the Politico-Religious Ideology of French Poetry: Middle-Ages and Renaissance*. He is currently working on an English translation of Renaut de Montauban ou les quatre fils aymon.

**Giovanna Summerfield** (Ph.D. 2004), associate professor at Auburn University, has just been appointed Director of the Arts and Faculty Initiatives, a member of the College of Liberal Arts leadership team, to promote civic engagement and interdisciplinary programs within and beyond the university. Her new books *New Perspectives on the European Bildungsroman* (Continuum Publishing) and *Vendetta: Essays on Honor and Revenge* (Cambridge Scholars Publishing) have been published this year while an edited critical text on Sicilian women artists, *Le Siciliane: così sono se vi pare* (Puntoacapo) and a book chapter, "Crossing Classroom Settings and Academic Disciplines while Crossing Geographical Boundaries: Sicily in the Curriculum of Auburn University," Academic Podcasting and Mobile Assisted Language Learning: Applications and Outcomes. (IGI Global Publishing) are forthcoming. After helping to establish an important collaboration between Università di Catania and Auburn University, Giovanna is presently working on a grant proposal, Atlantis project, with two European academic institutions and an American peer institution. She continues to present and to chair sessions in international and national conventions: Giovanna is scheduled to be in Atlanta as well as in Italy and Scotland in 2010–2011.

**Melissa Tortorella** (B.A. 2010) has secured a teaching position to teach English to French students in two middle schools in Le Havre for 2010–2011

# NEWS FROM OUR STUDENTS

## Undergraduate News

### **Chambre de commerce et d'industrie de Paris Diplôme de français professionnel:**

The Diplôme de Français professionnel exams offered by the CCIP allow students to demonstrate their competence in oral and written expression and comprehension in typical business and professional situations as measured by European Union standards. The B2-level diploma indicates proficiency in French for relational, administrative, and commercial contexts, while the C1 level diploma indicates readiness not only to work in French in diverse situations but also to pursue an advanced degree in a business-related field at a French or Francophone institution.

**Reçu:** Patricia Barboza, Alia Delong, Malory Hall, Alina Kazanova, Kathleen Killian, Kathie Lindor, Lane Nieset, Sara Reynolds, Nathasha Rivera, Miriam Stevens

**Mention bien:** Leah Booth (Niveau C1), Lidia Dinkova, Andrew Fontaine, Rachel Frattarola, Ryan Gallant, Staci Good, Catharina Klotz, Manuela Morales, Renata Maia de Needel, Maria Daniela Novoa, Deborah Parrales, Carolina Prieto, Melissa Tortorella, Madeline Zardoya

**Mention très bien:** Jason Amsellem, Hélène Gagliardi (Niveau C1), Ana Gonzalez (Niveau C1), Amanda Grassi, Katherine Howland

**Jemima Douyon:** Cet été j'ai eu l'honneur de travailler pour une organisation non gouvernementale (ONG), Breakthrough Collaborative. Cette organisation a pour but d'aider les enfants doués qui sont originaires des quartiers les plus pauvres des Etats-Unis à réussir sur le plan académique et social en les aidant à fréquenter les meilleures écoles dans les meilleurs quartiers. Breakthrough Collaborative offrent des positions stagiaires aux étudiants universitaires comme professeurs pour ces enfants.

J'ai eu l'honneur d'être un de ces professeurs! Etre professeur pour cette courte durée de temps m'a montré la réalité grotesque qui entoure l'éducation. A Miami où était mon site, dans un des quartiers clef où beaucoup de nos élèves sont originaires le nombre de diplômés est 1 sur 12 pour les garçons. Les liens et relations développés avec les élèves pendant l'été m'a ouvert les yeux sur les inégalités du système de l'éducation. Certaines écoles manquaient de matériaux essentiels pour l'apprentissage des élèves. Ces quartiers souffrent de plusieurs problèmes tels que la drogue, la prostitution et la violence. Ces enfants qui étaient mes élèves doivent confronter tous ces obstacles quotidiennement. Le fait qu'ils maintiennent de bonnes notes à l'école est extraordinaire et remarquable.

Bien qu'être un professeur pour adolescents soit une des choses les plus dures que j'aie faites, l'opportunité que j'ai reçue d'être une amie, une sœur à ces enfants est quelque chose que je chérirai pour le reste de ma vie. Mon rêve est qu'un jour tous les enfants auront les mêmes chances et opportunités pour une bonne éducation!

**Catherine Eisenhut:** Avec une double-spécialisation, il est parfois difficile de trouver l'expérience idéale qui peut lier nos deux domaines d'études. Heureusement, en faisant un stage avec le Consulat Américain Général à Québec l'été dernier, j'ai eu l'occasion d'acquérir de l'expérience dans mes deux domaines de spécialisation: les sciences politiques et le français. Pendant deux mois, j'ai travaillé au Consulat et j'ai observé comment un poste diplomatique fonctionne au jour le jour. En même temps, j'ai été plongée dans le français, une langue que j'avais seulement apprise à l'école.

J'avais déjà visité le Québec quand j'avais treize ans; c'était un voyage très court, mais il m'avait donné le désir de revoir le Québec et d'y rester pour plus de trois jours. Mon souhait s'est réalisé quand j'ai été affectée au Consulat américain. Le Consulat se trouve au cœur du quartier historique du Vieux Québec; en y allant chaque jour, je marchais sur ces anciennes rues et je passais devant des bâtiments construits au dix-septième siècle. A Québec, on est entouré par l'histoire!

J'ai vu à Québec un croisement entre l'ancien et le nouveau. Je suis allée au Festival d'été de Québec, un grand festival de musique qui dure deux semaines et qui attire des milliers de personnes avec ses spectacles. Il y avait, cette année, des groupes très populaires, comme "Black Eyed Peas" et "The Arcade Fire". En même temps, il y avait un spectacle de Gilles Vigneault, selon mon amie "un monument de la musique québécoise traditionnelle". Même si les Québécois adoptent le nouveau, ils restent très fiers de leur héritage qui leur tient très à cœur. Pendant l'été, on célèbre la Fête de la Nouvelle France, où on retourne au passé colonial de la ville. Pendant la fête, des femmes et des hommes marchent autour du Vieux Québec comme des anachronismes vivants, habillés en costumes du dix-huitième siècle. Dans le quartier de la basse ville près du fleuve Saint-Laurent, on a même construit un village colonial dans lequel les familles d'origine française donnent, heureusement, des leçons en histoire aux passants.

**Sara Reynolds:** I am a senior and I am studying History and French. This past summer I had a translation internship at the Orange County

Regional History Center in Orlando, FL where I completed two tasks. The first was to translate brochures and visitor guides for the museum from English into French. The second was to create a summary in French of each permanent exhibit. I was happy to broaden the multi-cultural offerings of my hometown. I am also writing a thesis on Anti-Semitism, the Press and the Dreyfus Affair. Thanks to Florida University Scholars, the Daniel E. Koleos Scholarship, and other funding, I was able to collect primary sources from la Bibliothèque Nationale de France, while spending 12 days in Paris.

## Graduate News

**Amanda Dascomb** is in her second year of M.A. with a concentration in linguistics. Her thesis is regarding Haitian Creole language changes due to language contact in Haiti (French, Creole, English). She will be graduating in Spring 2011.

**Laila Fares** wrote "Visite diplomatique à Gainesville" on the occasion of the visit of Gaël de Maisonneuve, consul général de France in Miami on February 11, 2010 (published on the site of the FFRI). And she received the J. Wayne Conner Fellowship to conduct research in Paris in the summer of 2010.

**Kate Hunter Fredericks** pursued her work on Voltaire and geographical treatises, the subject of her dissertation entitled: "Defining Geography in Voltaire's Philosophical Tales: *Zadig*, *Micromégas*, *Candide*, and *l'Ingénu*." During the Fall 2009 and Spring 2010 semesters, she taught Intermediate French Conversation courses at UF. In the Summer of 2010, she taught Intensive Intermediate French at the Paris Research Center during the Summer Program, where she worked also as a program assistant. In addition, she was the recipient of the J. Wayne Conner Award for Summer Research to be conducted in a Francophone Country (Paris, France) in conjunction with her dissertation.

**Wedsly Turenne Guerrier** defended his Dissertation entitled "Rehabilitation of a Haitian Poet: Etzer Vilaire" in April 2010. He is now a Visiting Assistant Professor at Tulane University (New Orleans) where he is teaching two Haitian Creole classes and Haitian Culture. In March 2010, he presented a paper titled: "La doctrine poétique de Vilaire" at the Conference "It's Complicated: A Clash of Perspectives" (Boston College, Boston, March 2010).

**Richard Hendrie**, in 2009-2010, pursued his studies in literature, film studies, and linguistics at UF and at the Paris Research Center in the



summer. He also started writing his M.A. thesis under the supervision of Dr. Blum.

**Courtney Keady**, with the help of committee members Dr. Carol Murphy and Dr. Brigitte Weltman-Aron, completed and defended her master's thesis, "Colette's Kaleidoscope: A study of colors, mirrors, and continuities in *Chéri* and *Gigi*," in May of 2010. In July, Courtney was named to the "Outstanding" rank of the 2010 CWP Women's Collegiate Scholar Athlete team for performance during the 2009–2010 water polo season. She was married on July 10<sup>th</sup> to LT Gregory Schmucker of the United States Submarine Corps at Saint Luke's Church in Chicago, IL and has since relocated to Kingsland, GA. Courtney will spend the 2010–2011 school year teaching English at a private elementary school in Nice, France and hopes to begin Ph.D. work upon restationing.

**Matthew Loving** (a Ph.D. candidate and a librarian at UF's Smathers Libraries), in July 2009, attended a week-long technical training of Haitian library partners sponsored by the US Embassy in Port-au-Prince. In October 2009, he was a member of the team awarded a \$5000 UF mini-grant for the development of the UF Catalog of Historical Southern Newspapers. In December 2009 he published an article: "Putting the Library Back into Digital Libraries," in Charleston Conference Papers. Santa Barbara, Calif: Libraries Unlimited. In January 2010 he presented at the Symposium International des Jeunes Chercheurs de la Caraïbe in Schoelcher, Martinique: "Les bibliothèques numériques: des ressources pour les chercheurs." Also, in January 2010, he signed a Memorandum of Agreement between the Digital Library of the Caribbean



## We Welcome Our New M.A. Students!

Front row: Kelly Wiechman (College of Charleston) and Sophia Durand (University of Nebraska). Back row: Fabien Cappelli (Université de Toulouse) and Justine Guitttonny-Cappelli (Université de Toulouse). Not pictured: Jordin Patten (Bowling Green State University).

and Manioc (the digital library of the Université des Antilles-Guyane) to proceed with digital collaboration initiatives and shared harvesting protocols.

**Anny Mavambu-Ndulu** continued working on her dissertation of which she has written three out of four chapters. She is currently working on the last chapter. She attended the "It's Complicated: A Clash of perspectives" Graduate Students Conference at Boston College where she presented a paper entitled "Réception paradoxale du corps métis dans *Garçon manqué* de Nina Bouraoui: conflit interne et externe difficile."

**William Sheard** has defected from the genteel world of literary pursuits in order to explore the arcane realm of phonetic transcription, inflectional morphology and X-bar theory. This autumn he is starting a PhD in linguistics while completing his French master's thesis on the subject of representations of the city in Jules

Verne. In spite of the linguistic turn, William's fondness for literature remains undiminished. A summer spent in convalescence afforded him the opportunity to revel in the nineteenth century by reading Pushkin, *Middlemarch* and plenty of Maupassant's short stories.

**Audrey Viguié** was awarded the Atkin Fellowship to conduct research on Occitan revolutionary pamphlets in southern France. She is completing a "Diplôme Universitaire" (D.U) in Occitan at the Université de Toulouse Le Mirail (France). She also won for the second time a FLAC Course Development Grant: "Representation of Ethnic Minorities in French Movies." Her paper "Au champ comme à la ville.... les pamphlets parisiens et occitans sur le clergé en 1791" is now in press (Association Internationale d'Etudes Occitanes).

## More news from our graduate students...

### Richard Hendrie

#### *Un cours de sociolinguistique en France:*

Pendant les deux premières semaines de mai 2010, neuf étudiants de l'Université de Floride ont fait un voyage à Paris pour suivre le cours *Sociolinguistique dans la ville: interaction et variation* (FRE 3324). Entrepris en collaboration avec le Paris Research Center, le thème du cours portait sur les courants de la sociolinguistique. Le cours avait pour objectif de nous familiariser avec l'observation du comportement linguistique dans plusieurs arrondissements à Paris et à Rennes, une ville à l'ouest de Paris, et de nous exposer à plusieurs types de données inaccessibles aux Etats-Unis. Nous avons surtout examiné les termes d'adresse et à la négociation dans les lieux publics.

À Paris, notre itinéraire a débuté par une visite au parc de Bercy dans le douzième arron-

dissement et s'est terminé par une visite au Café Le Relais des Arts dans le cinquième arrondissement. Au cours de ces quatorze jours, nous nous sommes mis en quête de la variation et de l'interaction dans de nombreux quartiers, marchés intérieurs et extérieurs, magasins, boutiques, cafés et restaurants dans les deux villes en enregistrant nos observations et constatations dans un journal sociolinguistique. En plus, nous avons regardé plusieurs films illustrant la variation, le bilinguisme et le plurilinguisme et avons écouté deux présentations sociolinguistiques du Dr. Françoise Gadet de l'Université de Paris-X *Ce que la ville fait aux langues: l'exemple de Paris* et du Dr. Sophie Bailly de l'Université Nancy-2 *Les différences entre les femmes et les hommes dans la conversation* qui étaient très intéressantes.

Un des points forts du cours a été la visite à

l'Université de Rennes 2 dans la capitale bretonne. Escorté par Aude Etrillard et Claire Lesacher, deux doctorantes de l'Université, notre groupe a eu la chance d'explorer une université en France, d'observer plusieurs situations sociolinguistiques à Rennes et d'apprendre également que l'on parle trois langues dans la ville: le français, le breton et le gallo.

Du point de vue sociolinguistique, non seulement le cours a plongé les étudiants au cœur d'un pays qui parle la langue française, mais en plus, le cours a introduit les étudiants aux méthodes de travail de l'enquête sociolinguistique, c'est-à-dire aux domaines de l'observation, de l'enregistrement et de l'analyse de la réalité contemporaine d'une communauté linguistique. Cette expérience nous a permis d'approfondir notre étude de la langue française.

Present Activities: \_\_\_\_\_