

FRENCH & FRANCOPHONE STUDIES

DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGES, LITERATURES, AND CULTURES • VOLUME 7 • FALL 2014
 Co-éditeurs, Carol Murphy and Alioune Sow; Mise en page, Phoebe Wilson; Contact, cmurphy@ufl.edu



GREETINGS FROM THE CO-EDITORS OF THE FFS NEWSLETTER

Drs. Carol Murphy and Alioune Sow

Dear Alumni and friends of French Studies,

We are pleased to bring you the seventh edition of our annual French and Francophone Studies Newsletter, the first to be produced exclusively in an electronic format. This has been an exciting year for our students and faculty in FFS who have been productive not only in the classroom but also in publishing research, obtaining grants and pursuing other activities of merit. In this issue we feature a special *table ronde* discussion with some of our many French and Francophone Studies majors who offer a glimpse of what it means to be an FFS major of the 21st century, one who melds an interest in French language and cultures with second (and third) majors that bolster their

career plans. The France-Florida Research Institute has been very active this year, welcoming the new Consul General from the French Consulate in Miami, Philippe Létrilliart, to UF in September, where he spoke to a packed room of



**New Consul Général de France
 Philippe Létrilliart came to UF to
 speak to students and faculty**



our majors, minors, faculty and other interested students at UF. In addition, the FFRI has supported numerous conferences and guest lecturers, some of which are featured in this newsletter. Our reciprocal exchange agreements with the Université de Rennes and L'Institut de Sciences Politiques, "Sciences Po," continue to foster study abroad and research opportunities for our very best students. Current graduate students in FFS have been very active this past year as indicated in the profiles that they prepared for us. As always, we are delighted to feature news from our former

graduate and undergraduate students who continue to lead rich and productive lives after their studies with us at UF. Faculty, too, have been very active in all of the various dimensions of their professional lives as indicated by their entries. We hope that you enjoy being brought up to date with the various facets of our program in French and Francophone Studies and encourage you to keep in touch with us for next year's edition of the FFS Newsletter so that we can include you in our yearly overview of our activities.

For updates on our activities throughout the year, visit our website: www.languages.ufl.edu/french

IN THIS ISSUE

Greetings from the co-editors of the FFS newsletter.....	1	Alumni News	9 – 12
A "table ronde" with some of our majors	2 – 4	Emeritus News.....	12
News from the France Florida Research Institute	5	French in Contact	13
Study abroad. Hélène Blondeau	6	Faculty News.....	14 – 15
2014 French Music Symposium.....	6	Thank You for Your Support	16
Sciences Po Carol Murphy.....	7	Keep Your Classmates Up to Date.....	16
News from our students	8 – 9		

A "TABLE RONDE" WITH SOME OF OUR MAJORS IN FRENCH AND FRANCOPHONE STUDIES

by Dr. Carol Murphy

I recently had the opportunity to talk with some of our many talented majors in French and Francophone Studies and would like to share with you their reflections on FFS studies at UF. The students participating in the "table ronde" discussion included Angélique Talmor, José Cotayo, Ann Manov, Lidia O'Shields and Nadj Pierre

Dr. Murphy: Please tell us something about your major(s), your academic interests, honors and other activities that you think may be of interest to our readers.

Angélique Talmor

I am a third year student majoring in French and Francophone Studies and Political Science with a concentration in International Affairs. My academic interests vary from 19th and 20th century French literature to Geology. On campus, my main involvements are as president of UF French Club (Le Cercle Français) and as Vice-President of the UF chapter of Amnesty International. I have also conducted research as a University of Florida Political Science department Junior Fellow, using the philosophical works of Michel Foucault to explore the relationship between punishment and state building in the international system. In addition to being in the Honors Program at UF, I am also an Anderson Scholar, and Phi Beta Kappa inductee.

Ann Manov

I am in my penultimate semester of a Bachelor of Arts at the University of Florida, with majors in English, French and Francophone Studies, and Spanish, as well as a minor and a certificate in Latin American Studies. My work has been funded by numerous scholarships; I am a National Merit Scholar, a Center for European Studies Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellow, a Ruth McQuown scholar, a University Scholar, and an Anderson Scholar. Otherwise, I have won the American Islamist Congress's book prize for an essay on civil rights policy in Afghanistan and have been chosen by two American policy debate leagues as the best national new debater of the year.

Nadj Pierre

My name is Nadj Pierre, and I am double majoring in French and Francophone studies and Cognitive and Behavioral Neuroscience. I am a Presidential and Southern Scholarship Recipient and I have been accepted to the Boston University Paris Internship Spring 2015 program for students interested in the medical NGO field. I plan to graduate in May 2015.

José Cotayo

My major is French and Francophone Studies although astronomy and music pique my interest as well. I am a recipient of the Machen Florida Opportunity Scholarship, which means that I am fortunate enough to be the first of my family to be given the opportunity to prove my worth in a university setting. I am in the Honors Program at UF, and I plan to graduate in the Spring of 2015. Despite being thoroughly involved in reading and completing classwork assignments, I am also strongly devoted to the University of Florida Symphony Orchestra, where I am an integral member of the viola section, and an avid *parkour* practitioner (also known as a *traceur*).

Lidia O'Shields

I graduated from State College of Florida in May 2013 as the Outstanding Graduate, was president of the Phi Theta Kappa chapter there and received several scholarships to finish my B.A. I transferred to UF to study Russian in Summer A Term 2013. I was also selected as one of only ten students from the U.S. to attend *le Parlement des Jeunes Francophones des Amériques* in Toronto in August 2014 where I interacted with students from Canada, the U.S., Mexico and South and Central America. We worked within the framework of the Canadian Parliament



FFS major Nadj Pierre

with opposing sides presenting their views on human trafficking and control of arms proliferation and smuggling. It was a great experience to learn firsthand how government works and doesn't and to hear all of the participants's views.

Dr. M. Thank you for introducing yourselves to our readers. Please tell us why you decided to major in French and Francophone Studies at UF.

Angélique

I decided to major in French and Francophone studies because of my grandfather, who has a Masters in French literature. He is one of the most cultured and brilliant people I have ever met. I spent a large part of my childhood with him in Versailles, France, and he taught me numerous things about French history and literature. This has given me an appreciation for the many different aspects of the French culture and a desire to pursue French and Francophone Studies in my higher education.

Ann

I decided to major in FFS at Professor Murphy's and Professor Zachmann's encouragement. I initially continued studying French to improve my language skills out of high school and to pursue my interest in French literature.

continued on page 3

A "TABLE RONDE" CONTINUED

José

Frankly, I decided to major in French and Francophone Studies after thinking very intently about my position in the College of Engineering (after all, I was initially enrolled as an Aerospace/Mechanical Engineer dual-major with a minor in French). Engineering wasn't really working out for me and that's when I realized that I could actually do something with the French language. With every passing week, I started liking Engineering less and less, and, well, French was always there and was becoming more and more appealing.

Nadj

Since I've been in the French system all my life in Haiti, I felt like I had to keep going in my studies in the field during college as well. I would like to study medicine in France and being a French major on a premed track really helps when it comes to qualifying as adaptable to learning in another language. This also helped me get the internship in Paris available to French majors where I will study post-colonial France and politics for six weeks followed by a six-week internship in NGO medical practices.

Lidia

As I had always had a love of and some proficiency in French I added FFS as a second major to my Russian first major in fall 2013. It was one of the best decisions I've ever made. I've not only learned so much, but I've made many dear friends, have so many new mentors from the French department faculty and saw the fruition of one of my dreams, to study in Paris, through Dr. Blondeau's Summer in Paris program during summer 2014.

Dr. M. *How does your FFS major connect to your other major(s) and or minor(s)? Be specific.*

Angélique

My FFS major connects with my Political Science major in a number of ways. It has instilled in me a more globalized perspective on the world – something that is essential for those who aspire to work in International Affairs as I do. Also, French writers and philosophers have had a strong influence on Political Phi-

losophy. And my background in French literature has permitted me to explore in depth the impact of Francophone writers/philosophers on the field of Political Science. The research project in which I was involved, which utilized the works of Michel Foucault, is a prime example of this. Finally, the level of French mastery I have been able to obtain through my FFS major will permit me to study abroad and take classes in French at Sciences Po Spring and Fall 2015.

Ann

My education in French culture and literature complements my education in Anglophone and Hispanophone cultures and literatures. I am interested in comparative literature and cultural studies.

Nadj

With degrees in French and Neuroscience, I hope to be able to study medicine in France. The background knowledge that I have accumulated as a FFS major would definitely come in handy in studying in the sciences abroad.

José

I would say that FFS connects not only to music, but to everything else I do as well. I find references to French culture, French words or expressions, French gastronomy (and I'm in heaven when I do), and countless others in my day-to-day experiences. For example, *parkour* originated in France and, if it comes to music, I enjoy playing all sorts of instruments and the modern transverse flute that's commonly used in orchestras is none other than a "French model" flute.

Lidia

I originally decided to major in Languages at UF as my ultimate goal is to work for the U.S. government in some capacity where my language skills are not only useful but a vital component of my job.

Dr. M. *What are your plans after graduation? Do you plan to continue your studies or to engage right away in a career? I realize that you may not have made up your mind at this point in time, but let us know what you've been thinking about.*

Angélique

I am still unsure of my post-graduation plans. I will either attend graduate school in France or the United States. If I attend graduate school in France, I plan to matriculate at Sciences Po and pursue a Master d'Affaires Publiques, with the long-term goal of attending l'Ecole Nationale d'Administration. If I attend graduate school in the United States I will first work a few years in the field of international affairs, after which I will apply to law school to pursue a career in international law. Whichever path I take, I hope to be able to pursue a career which permits me to hone my interest in International Affairs and make a positive impact on the world.

Ann

While I do not want to presumptuously declare what I'm doing, I am intending to apply for teaching fellowships in France, Spain, and Mauritius, as well as graduate school in France – probably at Paris IV and VII – and decide between these.

Nadj

I wish to go to medical school right after graduation. My dream school is the International Medicine program at the University of London. If not there, I would like to attend medical school in Clermont-Ferrand or Toulouse.

José

Certainly the challenges that come with this major is that everyone in my extended family and the vast majority of my friends ask "what's there to do with a French major?," and I too find myself partially inside that twilight zone of ignorance. In all honesty, I have not considered very many options for life after my studies, and so it would be difficult for me to pinpoint an answer at the current time.

Lidia

I am looking forward to my last semester as an undergraduate in FFS and even more so to next year where I will be finishing my M.A. through the 4+1 program. I entered the 4+1 at the end of

continued on page 4

A "TABLE RONDE" CONTINUED

last semester and began taking graduate level courses this year that will apply toward my M.A. My hopes are to attend UF's one-year MBA program after I graduate in French. Afterwards I'm planning to pursue a Ph.D. in International Relation with a focus on Diplomacy. Thank goodness my husband places education only behind family!

Dr. M. *What has been the most challenging or surprising aspect of your studies in FFS at UF?*

Angélique

The most challenging aspect of my study in FFS has been learning to analyze and comment texts, but it has also been one of the most interesting and personally gratifying aspects of my study. I have found that the skills I have learned in analyzing and commenting French texts have enhanced my appreciation of French literature by enlarging the lens through which I am able to read and conceptualize the material. Additionally, I have found that my critical thinking and writing abilities have benefitted tremendously from this exercise – even those in English.

Ann

I had virtually no grounding in French culture and feel my education in French history and contemporary attitudes has been excellent. I owe much of this to my brief time spent on a FLAS fellowship at the *Cours de la civilisation française de la Sorbonne* in Paris last summer.

Nadj

I was surprised at the interest I came to have about sociolinguistics. I am now writing an honors thesis on the attitudes and representations surrounding the contact of creole and French in Haiti, and I find it fascinating, something I did not expect going into this major.

José

Something about the French and Francophone Studies major that came as a welcome surprise was approaching French from a linguistic standpoint. Until recently, I imagined linguistics to be nothing more than the study of languages and sounds, but taking courses such as Corrective Phonetics, A Structural Analysis of the French Language, and Introduction to Linguistics, I've discovered a kindled interest in the field and realized that my preconceived notions of the study were far off from the truth.

Lidia

The course load is sometimes daunting and the many papers I have to write when I want to be out enjoying the beautiful Florida weather makes study of French at UF difficult sometimes. However, when I look back at how much I've accomplished in a few short years I am so thankful for this opportunity. Studying French has been very helpful in other areas such as history courses, art and literature. Being able to read in French and understand what was meant focuses a

new light and a different way of seeing many passages that I have read over the course of my study.

Dr. M. *What would you say to other students interested in majoring in FFS?*

Angélique

Do it. And take advantage of the numerous opportunities to go abroad that your advanced knowledge of French will qualify you for!

Ann

I am glad to have majored in FFS.

Nadj

Being a French major has opened doors that I never knew were there and made me a well-rounded individual, more ready to take on "real life" after graduation.

José

I would definitely recommend the FFS program to anybody with even the slightest interest in French. The department is filled with very knowledgeable professors, and as a student you'll learn so much about culture that you'll broaden your horizons and perhaps even start to see the world differently. FFS is not just about learning to speak French, but also about learning the history, culture, and social aspects of France. I think it would be a wonderful opportunity for anybody and I would encourage them to not miss out on it.

Lidia

I would recommend to any UF student that they take French while here. The classes are tailored to the appropriate levels, the faculty is world class with many being native speakers and the opportunities for participation in extracurricular events or study abroad are outstanding. If anyone has any question about my experiences in the FFS program at UF all I can say is it has been one of the most fantastic experiences of my life, educationally, culturally and socially. I highly recommend this program to anyone who is considering studying a foreign language whether as a major or just to fulfill requirements or electives.



From left to right: FFS Majors Ann Manov, Angélique Talmor, Lidia O'Shields and José Cotayo

NEWS FROM THE FRANCE FLORIDA RESEARCH INSTITUTE *by the director, Dr. Alioune Sow*

This past year, the FFRI has fostered new ties with UF centers and units through annual collaborative research projects that enhance faculty and students mobility. The initiative "French in contact" launched in Fall 2013 and running until 2015, is an interdisciplinary project that involves collaboration between the Department of Languages, Literatures and Cultures, Linguistics, the Center for African Studies, the Center for Latin American Studies and, abroad, the Université Paris X, Université Rennes II and the University of Ottawa. The project focuses on the implications of the concepts of "intersection" and "contact" in French for cultural productions across multiple locations. It examines linguistic practices and dynamics and investigates changes and innovations in literature, cinema and urban music in selected sites such as Paris, Dakar, Bamako, Montreal, Port au Prince, New Orleans and Miami. In Fall 2013, UF has hosted the colloquium "French in contact" and in Spring 2014, two members of the project Dr Blondeau and Dr Fiona McLaughlin participated in the conference, "Les Métropoles en temps de Globalisation", which took place in Paris Nanterre in June 2014.

A second project opens up collaboration with the Social Sciences on the theme of "Development, Security and Climate Change in the Sahel" thus consolidating the FFRI position and interdisciplinary agenda within the university. Launched in Fall 2014, the program promotes research collaboration between UF, Sciences Po (Paris, France), and University Cheikh Anta Diop (Dakar, Senegal), with the hope of building a productive network and lasting collaboration on African development issues. The project launched with an international conference and a series of seminars with participants from Sciences PO and UCAD during the week of September 20-26, 2014. More than 50 faculty and graduate students participated from Anthropology, African Studies, Climate Change Institute, Geography, Linguistics, MDP, Political Science, Public Health, Veterinary Medicine.

Moreover, we had the pleasure of organizing several activities among which, in February 2014, the visit of Professor Bogumil Jewsiewicki (University of



Haitian poet Rodney Saint Éloi on the left and French novelist Sébastien Doubinsky on the right

Laval), who gave a lecture on contemporary Congolese artist Sammy Baloji titled "Images qui s'entrechoquent: promenades de Sammy Baloji entre les mémoires locales et l'imaginaire global"; in October, Professor Françoise Vergès, (Collège d'Études Mondiales, Fondation Maison des Sciences de l'Homme, Paris) gave a lecture titled "Decolonizing the French Republic"; in November, Haitian poet Rodney Saint Éloi and French novelist Sébastien Doubinsky engaged in a public dialogue on the subject of "Poétique et Primitivisme" for graduate students and faculty in French and read poems for Poetry Night as well as gave a presentation to the creative writing program at UF.

In September 2014, the FFRI hosted the visit of the new Consul Général de France in Miami, Philippe Létrillart, who



Students gather for presentation by Philippe Létrillart

gave a presentation to faculty and students on "France and Florida: A Long Standing Relationship".

Finally, the FFRI has contributed to the organization of the 18th Music and Literature symposium organized by Dr Sylvie Blum and Miriam Zach, to the Florida Experimental Film Video Festival organized by Roger Beebe as well as sponsored the visit of French pianist Denis Lavaillant who participated at the University of Florida International Saxophone Symposium. For more information on the FFRI please visit our website at <http://franceflorida.clas.ufl.edu/>



New Consul Général de France Philippe Létrillart

STUDY ABROAD PROGRAMS

by Dr. H el ene Blondeau and Jordin Patten

Report from Rennes

Jordin Patten, a Ph.D. student in French and Francophone Studies participated in the student exchange agreement between UF and Universit e de Rennes II. Dr. H el ene Blondeau is delighted to report about the student exchange agreement between UF and Universit e de Rennes II, France.

Last spring Jordin Patten, a Ph.D. Candidate in French and Francophone Studies and Linguistics with a Minor in Women's Studies spent a semester in Rennes (France) in the context of our student exchange agreement. Jordin's research interests encompass Gender and Language, Conversation Analysis and Women's/Gender Studies. In Rennes, Jordin's course work included a variety of courses in her general area of research and in French. She took courses on Discourse Analysis, Political Discourse Analysis, Anthropology and Communication, as well as French Courses for International Students who speak French as a second language. Jordin's course work in Rennes has been recognized for her UF programs in French and Francophone Studies.

Jordin is sharing with us her impressions about Rennes:

'I enjoyed my study abroad and it was a positive experience. I was able to develop my research by taking courses at the University of Rennes 2, but I was also able to take courses to improve my written and spoken French. The French courses, meant

for students speaking French as a second language (at all levels, varying from beginning to advance) were beneficial. These courses really helped me to reach a higher level of written and academic French. I also really benefited from the research lab. In the lab I was able to meet other doctoral students with similar research interests. The city of Rennes is also open and friendly to international students, making it very easy to get around and meet other students. I also really liked that Rennes 2 had dorms and housing options that were readily available, reasonably priced, comfortable and within walking distance to the University. I really enjoyed and learned a lot from this experience and I am very happy that I had the opportunity to participate in this program.'

Dr. H el ene Blondeau, in collaboration with Ms. Andrea Kim from the University of Florida International Center, is responsible for selecting the students who will represent UF at Universit e de Rennes II. Students pay tuition to their home institution and are able to apply scholarships, such as Bright Futures at the undergraduate level, or other types of scholarships at



the graduate level to the program fees. UF recognizes the invaluable study abroad experience, and we look forward to welcoming students from Rennes to UF in the near future.

If you want to know more about this student exchange agreement between UF and Universit e de Rennes II, please contact Dr. H el ene Blondeau: blondeau@ufl.edu.

2014 FRENCH MUSIC AND LITERATURE SYMPOSIUM



by Dr. Sylvie Blum

In Spring 2014, Sylvie Blum and Miriam Zach organized a French Music and Literature symposium, in the footsteps of their team-taught class, Correspondances. The event was scheduled around Miriam's international festival of Women music composers. Cormac Newark (University of Ulster, Ireland) delivered a keynote address on "Opera in Proust". He was introduced by Rori Bloom; other presentations included Carol Murphy's paper on "Julien Gracq's Nocturnal Musings in *Le Roi Coph etua*" as well as Miriam Zach on "Elysabeth Jacquet de la Guerre's cantatas" and Sylvie Blum on "Music and

Memory in Marguerite Duras's Indian Cycle." All these events were housed in the Music Building, the Friends of Music Room and the Baughman center. Our assistants Daniella Della Riva and Georgie Breville helped us immensely with the event and the reception. The symposium was sponsored by the France-Florida Research Institute, UF International Centre and the department of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures. In spring 2015, Sylvie Blum will be teaching a class on French music and literature "M emoire Musicale" as well as a class on the Music of French Cinema.

SCIENCES PO EXCHANGE PROGRAM: UF'S RECIPROCAL EXCHANGE PROGRAM WITH L'INSTITUT D'ETUDES POLITIQUES

by Dr. Carol Murphy

UF's partnership with the internationally renowned *Institut d'études politiques* in Paris was established in 2002 and continues to be a vibrant study abroad program for exceptional UF students interested in pursuing their studies in Political Science, International Relations and language and cultural studies relevant to their chosen areas of expertise. UF is one of only 61 American universities to have a reciprocal exchange agreement with Sciences Po and sends annually 8 to 10 qualified students to Paris or one of the other six Sciences Po centers in France offering specialized area studies in social sciences.

At Menton, for instance, students are taught Arabic as part of their advanced studies of the Middle East, the Mediterranean and the Gulf. The campus at Poitiers offers content courses in Spanish as well as in English on Latin American affairs, Spain and Portugal. Students at Dijon focus on Central and Eastern Europe, at Le Havre they explore the links

equivalencies for our outgoing students. In addition, UF welcomes Sciences Po students to Gainesville, under the direction of Lyn Straka of UFIC. This past fall, six Sciences Po students studied at UF. In the Fall of 2014, three UF students studied at Sciences Po in Paris: Laura Arango, a dual degree major in Political Science and Telecommunications with a minor in

studying abroad was critical for my future success. I was fortunate enough to have had the opportunity of studying abroad here in Paris at one of Europe's premier universities in International Relations. The advantages Sciences Po has for my studies, as well as its uniqueness, stems from that which makes it different from UF. Approximately half of the students that attend any given semester are international students. This creates a challenging environment that facilitates the development of international perspectives that could not be attained at other universities. Every day a new perspective can be discovered, a different opinion from another part of the world can be deciphered and it allows for a deeper understanding on any given subject. This sense of diversity is not the only beneficial distinction as an interesting difference can also be found in the professors themselves. My course on Public International Law is taught by an international lawyer who currently works for the UN, the United Nations Peacekeeping Force lecture I attend is taught by a former Peace Keeper and my Middle Eastern Conflict professor has spent several years in the area. These first hand experiences have helped me further determine what I would, and would not, like to do in my future career. The experiences that can be lived here in Paris are extraordinary, with thousand of cultural and educational opportunities constantly present. I am now unsure whether I will pursue graduate studies in the United States or in a European country. However, despite all these advantages, I continue to miss UF and more than anything the enormous libraries we have at our disposal."



UF students at Sciences Po this fall do the gator chomp in front of the Invalides in Paris. Left to right: Laura Arango, Karla Mundim, Alejandro Vela.

between Europe and Asia, and on the Nancy campus they examine Germany and the German-speaking world. Reims, the latest campus to be established, is a pôle of study for trans-Atlantic relations (Europe and North America). Dr. Carol Murphy is the Academic Advisor for UF students interested in studying in France, and she works with Andrea Kim of the UF International Center (UFIC) who ensures a smooth transition of credits and course

French and Francophone Studies, Karla Mundim, a Political Science major and Alejandro Vela, a double major in French and Francophone Studies and Political Science. Alejandro wrote to us about his experience of studying abroad at Sciences Po in fall 2014:

"Essentially every liberal arts major dreams about studying abroad. As an international studies and French major

NEWS FROM OUR STUDENTS

Current Grad Students

by Dr. Brigitte Weltman-Aron, Director of Graduate Studies

Our returning Graduate Students in Linguistics and Literature have been extremely active in the past academic year. They have traveled to conferences to present their work in progress, and they have benefited from fellowships or exchanges thanks to which they were able to conduct research and study abroad. In addition, we have welcomed in August new Graduate students who are also very accomplished (Cara Bailey, Alexandra Cherry, Jacqueline Lopez, and Farrah Mahroug). Thomas Glenn and Deborah Parrales anticipate graduating with an M.A. in French and Francophone Studies in the Spring of 2015.

Natalie Amgott

When I chose UF for undergraduate studies, I knew that the French program was outstanding, but I had no idea how many opportunities would be provided to me by the Languages, Literatures, and Cultures Department. As a French and Chinese double major, my interest in linguistics grew throughout my time in undergraduate studies. During sophomore year, Dr. Murphy asked me to consider the French 4+1 program, which would allow me to get my B.A. and M.A. in 5 years. The 4+1 program has allowed me to take incredible courses, work as a research assistant and a French teaching assistant, and specify in the Linguistics track of the French Master's program. Last year, as a UF senior and first year Master's in French student, I took half undergraduate classes and half graduate classes. While working as a French linguistics research assistant for the project *Le français à la mesure d'un continent*, I realized that my love of language lay not only in learning the individual languages themselves, but in the study of Language in general – Linguistics. This autumn, I was presented with the opportunity to present research with Dr. Blondeau at the American Council of Québec Studies Conference in Montréal. Presenting the work in French made me see how far my French has come since I started studying it in 2005. As I approach my 10th year of language studies, I'm applying to Ph.D. programs in Linguistics and hoping to continue to research Language in Contact in immigrant communities. UF's 4+1 program has well prepared me for such a step. I look forward to my final chapter

in UF's French program as I prepare to write my Master's thesis and continue as a French teaching assistant.

Michelle Brown

My second year as a graduate student in the MA program has already proven to be a period of tremendous growth for me. Between an anticipated teaching load increase, a conference presentation at UNM's High Desert Linguistics Society in Albuquerque, New Mexico, preparation for the comprehensive exams that will take place in the spring, and designing a thesis topic in Second Language Acquisition with the help of my supervisor Theresa Antes, I've found myself more challenged than I could have ever imagined. However, the faculty and staff of the department have been unwavering in their accessibility, help and encouragement; I'm very grateful to be among such supportive friends, colleagues and mentors.

Delin Deng

In the past year, I worked as research assistant for Dr. Blondeau on the project "Français à la Mesure d'un Continent". In March 2014, I presented my work "Challenges in French Pronunciation Acquisition for Chinese Students" at 14th Annual Graduate Symposium at Purdue University with the support of Ernest G. Atkin Memorial Fund from the department. In March 2014, I was awarded Certificate of Outstanding of Academic Achievement by University of Florida International Center. In July 2014, I travelled to Paris, France and Nice, France to

collect data for my MA thesis with the support of J. Wayne Conner Memorial Fund offered by the department. Now I am preparing for the upcoming conference *Acedle 2015: Interagir pour apprendre les langues aujourd'hui* to be held in January 2015 in Lyon, France with my paper "L'Acquisition des Variants Grammaticaux Français chez les Etudiants Chinois à Paris: A Travers une Approche Sociolinguistique". Meanwhile, I will also be presenting a paper entitled "Does Time Really Matter?: The Acquisition of Discourse Markers by French L3 speakers in France" at Georgetown University Graduate Student Conference to be held in February 2015. Finally, another paper "Acquisition of Discourse Marker quoi by Chinese students in French Immersion Environment" for the conference AAAL 2015 in March 2015 in Toronto, Canada is also in preparation.

Richard Hendrie

During the spring 2014 semester I took Twentieth, Twenty-First- Century French Novel with Dr. Murphy (FRW6288). This course investigated the work of several contemporary French female authors such as Natalie Sarraute, Amélie Nothomb and Marie Nimier among others. I wrote a final paper entitled <<Un regard sur les stratégies narratives de Marguerite Duras: Une approche analytique >> that identified the narrative strategies that the author employed in two of her novels and that are, in general, indicative of her works. The first, *Un barrage contre le Pacifique* (The Sea Wall) is a powerful denunciation of the colonialism and the capitalism employed by the French government, civil servants and business interests between the two World Wars in French Indochina to exploit the natural resources of Vietnam, to enslave Vietnamese people and to deceive the average French citizen recruited to work in the colony that fame and fortune could be found in the Pearl of the Orient. The second novel, *L'Amant*, relates the story of a romantic relationship between a 15 year old poor French girl and a wealthy Chinese man in 1930 that was a transgression of the code of colonial society at the time. In the two novels, Duras used numerous narrative strategies such as

continued on page 9

the long paragraph, the stylistic figure called the blank, repetition, the concept of a story within a story and many ellipses among many others in order to tell the two stories. This summer, I read two books: *Panorama du film américain* by Raymond Borde and Etienne Chaumeton and *La guerre d'Indochine* by Jacques Dalloz. Fall semester, under the guidance of Dr. Sylvie Blum and Dr. Alessia Colarossi, I am in the process of translating the first seven chapters of the book *Le Avventure di Pinocchio* by Carlo Collodi from Italian into the English language in order to progress in my third language acquisition. In September I gave a one-hour talk in Dr. Blum's Francophone cinema class about Vietnam and presented the students with a personal and researched account of the conflict in that region during the 1960s.

Jordin Patten

This past year was very exciting and beneficial for me. As I was the winner of the FLAS fellowship, I was able to go to Rennes, France, during the spring semester. While I was in Rennes, I was able to take University courses and prepare for my qualifying exams, as well as collect data for my dissertation. My experience in Rennes was positive and allowed me to improve my French and add a more French/European perspective to my research.

Kelly Wiechman

The academic year 2013/14 was a busy one for Kelly. During the fall semester she continued to serve as Dr. Calin's Research Assistant, became the French Department's Representative on the Graduate Student Council and both mediated a panel and presented a paper entitled "The French Huguenot Influence in South Carolina" at the Pop Culture and American Culture Association of the South's annual meeting in Savannah, Georgia, and won a CLAS travel grant to attend the conference. During the spring 2014 semester she was chosen as a peer reviewer for both the Humanities and Social Sciences categories for the University of Florida's Journal of Undergraduate Research and was elected Social Chair to the Graduate Student Council. Academically, she fulfilled the course work requirement that will enable her to add a minor in Linguistics to her Ph.D. and is currently preparing for the Qualifying Exams. Her research interests are centered around historical linguistics, especially Francophone onomastics in South Carolina, Francophone immigration to South Carolina including French, Acadian, and Haitian migrations, and the effect of these populations on the variation of English (British and American) language spoken in Charleston, South Carolina.

Elizabeth Ziffer

Elizabeth Ziffer attended the annual French and Francophone Studies conference at UCLA, October 9-10. This year's theme "Touch" attracted talks from 30 grad students from Canada, France, the U.K. and the U.S.A. and vibrant keynote speaker Carla Freccero (UCSC). Elizabeth's paper on "L'érotisme du toucher chez Leïla Marouane" was part of a panel on Superficial Touch (the surface as significant). Other panels focused on Speaking through touch (Verbal silence), Narrative touch, Instigating touch (literature and political agitation), The Other's touch (harmful or healing), Sensory touch and Engaging touch (AIDS, the body and the public). She was thrilled to learn of ongoing research in our field and to make friends with outstanding students and researchers. On November 3 Elizabeth successfully defended her thesis entitled *Voix "affranchies" ou "égarées": La Vie sexuelle d'un islamiste à Paris*. The thesis contextualizes this fifth novel in Marouane's family of novels, the first to have a male protagonist. It explains how the hero's erotic quest is also his quest for self, how the depiction of his family constitutes "a fascinating microcosm" of French-Algerian immigrants living in Paris today, and it studies the representation of the female novelist. Elizabeth is grateful to her advisor, Dr. Brigitte Weltman-Aron, and committee members Dr. Carol Murphy and Dr. Alioune Sow.

ALUMNI NEWS

Undergraduate Majors

Kelsey Campbell (B.A., French and Francophone Studies, 2014)

Bonjour! My name is Kelsey Campbell and studying French at the University of Florida was one of the most rewarding experiences of my life. Amazing professors and friends surrounded me, and I even had the chance to study abroad in Paris. My time in Paris opened my eyes

to the beauty of the French culture that will stay with me forever. My most favorite part of the trip was learning from my Parisian host mom who showed me that friendship goes beyond language and culture. We still keep in touch today! Having the opportunity to study French at the University of Florida and in Paris have made it possible to connect my passion for French along with my passion for Education. Upon graduating with my Bachelor of Arts in French and Francophone Studies, I am now working

towards my Master's in Education while integrating French into the elementary classroom. This year, I have taught several French lessons to students in first and second grade. It is such a joy to see the children light up with excitement and curiosity as they learn French. They love hearing the smooth sounds of the language, learning new words and of course trying French food! They were tickled when I told them about the time I

continued on page 10

ate a whole baguette for lunch in Paris... (oui, c'est la vérité)! Honestly, seeing the children's eagerness to learn French is so revitalizing. I aspire to educate my students to be compassionate and curious towards other cultures and the French department at UF has helped make this possible. Merci mille fois!

Valerie Lugo (B.S. in Psychology and B.A. in French and Francophone Studies, 2013)

Upon graduation, Valerie took on a creative role at a product solutions design firm, Design Interactive, Inc., located in Orlando, FL. After working for a year and gaining invaluable applied experience and knowledge, she moved to Silicon Valley and enrolled in San Jose State University's Human Factors and Ergonomics graduate program in San Jose, CA. She is currently in her first semester of the Masters program and will begin an internship with Tesla Motors beginning in spring of 2015. She hopes to complete her coursework and thesis by spring of 2016, and then go on to attain a Ph.D. in Cognitive Psychology through Stanford's Design Program. She also hopes to pursue a career with Tesla Motors beyond an internship and to contribute to the expansion of this extremely promising company by supporting the growth of international satellite offices, such as last year's establishment of a new headquarters in Amsterdam.

Beth McGovern (B.A., French, 2011)

After graduating at UF with a major in French and Francophone studies and a minor in Sustainability, I participated in the Teaching Assistant Program in France (TAPIF). I lived in Metz in Lorraine and taught at three elementary schools. It was a good program, because as we all know immersion is everything. Now I feel confident in my ability to communicate in French in every aspect of my life. After TAPIF, I returned to the States before leaving for the Peace Corps in Cameroon. I taught English at a technical high school in my town and in my free time led a girls' club, where the girls learned how to protect themselves from STIs, such as HIV/AIDS and also learned how to act with self confidence in all areas of their lives. Since returning from Peace

Corps Cameroon, I have been applying to graduate programs in public administration both at home and abroad and looking for jobs in the non-profit sector.

Jenna Nichols (B.A., French and Francophone Studies, 2011)

As of this fall, I'm in my fourth year of the doctoral program in French Linguistics at the University of Texas at Austin. After earning my MA in the Spring of 2013, I completed a final year of graduate coursework and am now in process of completing the Comprehensive Exams for admission to PhD candidacy. These years at UT have given me the opportunity to conduct research in my primary interest areas of sociolinguistics and phonetics, and I've also gotten valuable experience teaching French and linguistics courses. Next summer, I plan on moving to Montreal for a year to collect data for my dissertation, which will focus on the indexicality of sociophonetic variables by French-English bilingual speakers. As always, I'm proud to be a graduate of the University of Florida. Go Gators!

Lane Nieset (B.A. French, B.S. Journalism 2010)

After spending seven months teaching English in Nice, France as part of the Teaching Assistant Program in France during the 2011-2012 school year, I fell in love with the region and wanted to find a way to return and work in France. I worked for a few years at a travel magazine in Miami before securing a long-stay visa allowing me to be based in Nice, France, working as a freelance writer for a variety of American publications. While my home is in Nice, I spend my days writing and traveling on assignment for magazines exploring hotels and destinations in Europe and the Middle East.

Anna Rutz (B.A., French and Political Science, 2007; M.A., German, 2009)

After completing her studies at the University of Florida, Anna taught for a year at the University of Pittsburgh and is now teaching at Rollins College. Her academic interests are centered around the 18th century. She is especially interested in the playwright and intellectual

Friedrich Schiller and the influence of his aesthetic theories, his social studies, his writings and most importantly his plays, that have long been canonized.

Aase Thompson. (B.A., French, 1986)

Aase writes to tell us that she is enjoying being a grandmother and an enthusiastic world traveler.

Graduate Students

Christian Ahihou (Ph.D. 2012)

Christian Ahihou continued his studies at the Levin Law School at UF and celebrated with his wife Carolle the birth of their son Ryan. He also continued his research on the literary works of Ken Bugul and the concept of *glissement* in literature. He has a book-length manuscript and article-length papers in hand, ready to be sent for publication. He also worked on some potential courses to teach and elaborated several syllabi. *Vivement* 2015...

Kathleen Kervin Diamond (B.A., 1968; M.A., 1969, 16th Century French Literature)

Having sold her language services company, Language Learning Enterprises, in 2009, Kathleen has devoted her time to consulting with small companies in the language industry. In addition, she is very active as an advocate for the premise that "language matters" and that certification of linguists is critical. As Commissioner on the Certification Commission for Healthcare Interpreters (CCHI), Kathleen is proud to announce that 1,600 interpreters have been awarded the CoreCHI™ or CHI™ certifications. The first group of over 200 certified interpreters is approaching the certification renewal. Over 110 continuing education training courses and programs for healthcare interpreters have been accredited through CEAP (Continuing Education Accreditation Program), with almost 40 programs available online. www.cchicertification.org.

continued on page 11

Kate Hunter Fredericks (Ph.D., 2012)

Kate has been Visiting Assistant Professor of French at SUNY Geneseo since August 2012. At SUNY Geneseo, Kate teaches courses in French language, literature, and culture, as well as courses in Western Humanities. In addition, she serves as Program Director for the Summer Study Abroad Program in Paris. Recent scholarly activity includes two article submissions - "Visual and Philosophical Spaces in *l'Encyclopédie*" and "Geography in Voltaire's *Les Questions sur l'Encyclopédie*" - and two conference presentations - "*The Production of Space* in Voltaire's *Candide*" at the American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies (ASECS) Annual Meeting (Williamsburg, VA, March 2014) and "'Social Space' in *l'Encyclopédie* and *les Questions sur l'Encyclopédie*" at the Canadian Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies (CSECS) Annual Meeting (Montréal, Québec, October 2014).

Ryan Gallant (B.A., 2010; M.A., 2014)

Since graduating in May, I have moved to California where I am pursuing a PhD in French Linguistics at the University of California, Davis. I am currently employed as an Associate Instructor teaching Beginning French 3.

Ann Healy (M.A., 2014)

Following my graduation in August with a M.A. in French Linguistics, I moved back to my hometown of Louisville, Kentucky. I am currently teaching at St. Francis High School, which is an independent, progressive school located in Louisville. I teach French 1-AP, as well as an elective in Gender Studies.

E. Joe Johnson (Ph.D., French, 1999)

Joe is slated to step down as the chair of the Department of Humanities at Clayton State University in metro-Atlanta at the conclusion of June 2015 and looks forward to returning to full-time faculty status after 6 years as an administrator. He is also rotating off the board of the Southeastern American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, once his term as the past president of the society ends with the society's annual meet-

ing, which is taking place in Gainesville in Spring 2015 and is being hosted by the department's Rori Bloom. Joe gave two conference talks in 2014: "On the Friendship of Children: Mme Thiroux d'Arconville's *De l'amitié* (1761)," at the annual conference of the Canadian Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies in Montréal, on October 18, 2014 and "Mme Thiroux d'Arconville: Defining Friendship in the 18th Century," at the 40th Southeastern American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, Knoxville, TN on February 28, 2014. Thus far in 2014, he has published sixteen translations of French and Belgian *bédé*, with another eight translations scheduled to appear before year's end. He's otherwise continuing his work on a classroom edition of the novel *Paul et Virginie*, the translation of the contemporary novel *Chercher Proust*, and the co-editing of a *festschrift* in memory of Annibel Jenkins, a long-time stalwart of eighteenth-century studies in the South.

Cynthia Lees (Ph.D. 2006)

Cynthia teaches French literature, Business French, and Foreign Language pedagogy courses at the University of Delaware in Newark. Drawing upon her 25+ years as a French teacher in K-12 classrooms from Maine to Florida, she is currently administering the Electronic Portfolio project for Foreign Language Education majors, a reflective project for prospective teachers for which she received a grant from UD's College of Arts and Sciences. She continues her role as Academic Advisor for Foreign Language Education majors in five languages, and serves on the editorial board of *Quebec Studies*, academic journal of the American Council for *Quebec Studies*. Over the summer she published two articles, one on contemporary Franco-American poetry of New England, and another on the trope of invisibility in modern Franco-American prose. Her current research interests include the writing of Franco-American memoir from Jacques Ducharme to David Plante and the queering of the iconic figure of the *coureur de bois* in recent Franco-American novels, memoirs, and poetry. Cynthia and her husband Daniel divide their time between Delaware and Titusville, Florida.

Paul Selçuk Merter (M.A., 1992)

Après avoir terminé ma maîtrise en 1992 à l'Université de Floride, je suis rentré en France où j'enseigne l'anglais dans une institution catholique à Angers. Depuis deux ans, je pilote un programme d'échange avec le lycée privé De la Salle Institute de Chicago. Mes élèves de 4^{ème} et de 3^{ème} passent deux semaines aux USA, reçoivent leurs correspondants américains en France et ils en sont ravis. En dehors de l'enseignement, depuis quelques années je pratique la poterie dans un atelier sous la direction d'un maître-céramiste. J'ai présenté mon travail en céramique dans trois expositions collectives à Istanbul en 2012, 2013 et 2014.

Barbara Petrosky (Ph.D., 2006)

J'enseigne toujours en Pennsylvanie à Johnstown, dans une des branches de l'université de Pittsburg. Je continue de faire des recherches sur Pierre Loti et la photographie. Je viens de publier deux articles à Paris dans la revue littéraire qui lui est consacrée. J'organise un festival de film le mois prochain grace aux *Tournées Festival*. Je suis la co-directrice (avec David) d'un programme d'études à Paris qui aura lieu pour la première fois en mai, et qui continuera tous les ans si tout va bien. Ce semestre j'enseigne des cours de langues (en espagnol et en français), et un cours de littérature générale. Olivier vient d'avoir dix ans et a commencé le collège, et Olga aura trois ans en février. Tout va bien.

David Petrosky (Ph.D., 2009)

Je suis toujours adjunct à l'université de Pittsburg à Johnstown. Cette année j'enseigne des cours de français et deux cours de littérature sur les chansons de geste, et sur Rabelais et Montaigne. Avec Barbara, je suis le co-directeur de notre nouveau programme à Paris. Là-bas, j'enseignerai un cours sur les écrivains de la génération perdue.

continued on page 12

Will Sheard (M.A., 2011)

Will is currently a PhD student in UF's Department of Linguistics. He expects to graduate in August 2015 following the defense of a dissertation on environmental discourse in British media. Will intends to begin thereafter a career in French instruction in a middle school or high school in the US.

Audrey Viguier (Ph.D. 2012)

Je suis lectrice à Michigan Technological University. J'ai quelques publications sur la littérature radicale de la révolution française et notamment Olympe de Gouges (*French Review*, *Nottingham*

French Studies, *Romance Studies*). Je me spécialise aussi sur Anatole France (*French Review*, Décembre 2015). Depuis 2012, j'organise des stages de formation pour les professeurs de français aux Etats-Unis (français des affaires), en collaboration avec l'Ambassade de France à Washington et la Chambre de Commerce et d'Industrie de Paris-Ile-de-France. L'objectif pour cette année 2015 est d'offrir une formation en français scientifique et technique.

Jingya Zhong (M.A., 2009)

I graduated from the French M.A. program in 2009 and my advisor was Dr. Hélène Blondeau. I also received a M.A. de-

gree from UF Linguistics Department in 2010. After teaching French and Chinese for several years, I joined Intel Corporation as a linguistic engineer in 2013. At Intel, I work on software linguistic development that plays a vital role in cutting edge technology innovation. The work has been quite interesting for me as I can apply my analytical skills and linguistic knowledge in building smart products, and learns new technical and computational linguistic skills everyday. I live in Boston and attended the Linguistic Resources and Evaluation Conference in Iceland in May this year.

EMERITUS NEWS

Bernadette Cailler

In 2013-2014, Bernadette Cailler published the following: "Terre natale, terre d'accueil, terres vécues: créativité poétique et pensée complexe chez Hédi Bouraoui", in *Pluri-Culture et Écrits Migratoires, Pluri-Cultures and Migrant Writings*. Sous la direction de / Edited by Elizabeth Sabiston & Robert Drummond. The Canada-Mediterranean Centre, York University, Ontario, Canada, 2014, pp. 141-155. (<http://bookstore.yorku.ca>) and a scholarly review of *Aimé Césaire. Du fond d'un pays de silence... Une édition critique de Ferrements* par Lilyan Kesteloot, René Hénane et M. Souley Ba. Paris: Orizons, "Profil d'un classique", 2012. ISBN: 978-2-296-08841-2. 329 p., in *Nouvelles Études Francophones*. 2013, pp. 264-268. The publication of several collective projects, in which Cailler has articles poised to appear, has been delayed. Meanwhile, the oral version of her article: "Schœlcher, Briand, Mandela, ou la force de regarder demain, par les voix de Césaire, Perse et Glissant" has been included in the videos of the conference titled "Saint-John

Perse, Aimé Césaire, Édouard Glissant: regards croisés", a conference sponsored by the UNESCO and Institut du Tout-Monde, Paris, September 2012 (Invitation). See www.edouardglissant.fr. She is currently completing an article on *Le barbare enchanté* (2003), a novel by Martinican writer Raphaël Confiant (for a special issue of *Francofonia*, Bologna, Italy). In early June, she will deliver a paper at the 41st Meeting of the *African Literature Association* at the University of Bayreuth, Germany. Her paper is titled: "Entre culture et barbarie, enchantement et désenchantement: *Les boucs* (Driss Chraïbi, 1955)", and is dedicated to Nedra Lejri Nabli's respected memory.

Raymond Gay-Crosier

Most of my work during the past year was devoted to fine tuning the extensive catalog that will be at the core of a forthcoming dedicated webpage. I consider it the *bouquet final* of my scholarly career. Featured permanently by the University library's special collections division, this webpage will be dedicated to the thematic and

chronological presentation of several hundred items by and on Albert Camus that I collected over more than fifty years. They range from unpublished correspondences, a 1939 and a 1941 original typescript of the play *Caligula* with unpublished handwritten corrections by the author, to first editions, rare audio items, and the voluminous source material I used for the preparation of the Pléiade edition of Albert Camus's *Œuvres complètes*. Special care was given to offer a truly user friendly catalog to both the general user and the serious researcher. During the spring of 2014, at the request of the author's daughter, Catherine Camus, the executrix of her father's literary legacy, I prepared an expert file to help her in a complex appeal of a negative copy right decision by a French court. It concerns 88 unpublished letters of which an auction house had placed, without permission, copies on the internet. Most recently, and as many times before, I filed a series of minor corrections for a reprint of a part of the Pléiade edition. This time it is the third reprint of volume III that will be published in 2015.

FRENCH IN CONTACT

FALL WORKSHOP FERTILIZES FIELDS OF LLC (LANGUAGES, LITERATURES AND CULTURES!)

by Elizabeth Ziffer, *French and Francophone Studies, M.A. 2014*

Experts from language realms as diverse as French youth dialect in the suburbs of Paris, literary Haitian in contemporary novels, religious Arabic terms in rap music and a new pidgin in Senegal all converged at the "French in Contact" workshop hosted November 15 and 16, 2013 by the France-Florida Research Institute of the University of Florida. In addition to individual presentations, researchers from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, from the Université de Rennes 2 and from UF had the chance to learn from each other in informal discussion groups about their specialties. Students got to see field work results, to hear the stories of how they were obtained and to witness theories being developed as well as be challenged. It was a stimulating two days for undergraduate and graduate students alike. What follows is a brief description of each talk.

In *Pathways to integration: gender-split and variable phonology in multi-ethnic youth vernaculars in Paris*, Zsuzsanna Fagyal-Le Mentec spoke eloquently of her forays into speech patterns in Courneuve, a disadvantaged suburban area of Paris where new ethnic minorities have resisted linguistically over the decades to monocentric French language and culture. She examined how different waves of immigrants in this area have used French in unique ways. She referenced similar phenomena in other urban centers of France as well as multi-ethnic influences on English in the United Kingdom, on German and on Scandinavian languages. In particular she studied the influence of Portuguese in transforming [d] to [dj] as with the word *dix* becoming [djis]. Also she recorded evidence of a stronger penultimate word / sentence stress pattern among young men as opposed to young women. The latter, as well as community leaders, conscious of their use of French for their own or their children's social mobility, seem to maintain the standard when needed.

Yolaine Parisot of UR2 presented a talk on the Haitian novel, a body of literature that for the past 200 years has come not only from Port au Prince, but also from the international cities of Miami, New York, and Paris. With her title

Ecrire l'urgence, réinventer le roman-escape haïtien, Parisot raised the issues of writing from the inside or outside – the island or from the diaspora? She evoked Haitian novelists' competition with a media explosion in their culture; and too, she questioned the role of the Haitian writer, by necessity one who is educated and cosmopolitan, but who feels called to write on behalf of disenfranchised compatriots. Parisot demonstrated anthological knowledge of Franco-Haitian writing from the 19th century on, and most recently, the 2010 earthquake spawned a new corpus of writing. "Écrit-on pour se consoler?" she cited Dany Laferrière (quoting Baudelaire). One of several novels she recommended was *Bicentenaire* by Lyonel Trouillot (Actes Sud, 2004) and used Danticat, Dominique, as well as the works of Moura, Soulet, Lahens, Dalembert and others. Parisot answered audience questions about the treatment of voodoo in European literature. Moderator Abdoulaye Kane broadened the conversation with the concept of being a world writer rather than a writer under a specific country's or culture's label.

Alioune Sow, FFRI Director, presented *Migration et pratiques théâtrales à Bamako*, a talk examining the way contemporary performances and local popular theatrical forms in Bamako respond to critical discourses on migration while questioning the representations of the migrant in the national imaginary. Focusing on *Nord Sud* produced by the company Blonba, the paper looked at how the play relies on new technologies to provide aesthetic opportunities for a topic that has been dominating the local scene.

Rap and Islam in France: Arabic Religious Language Contact with French is a project of Benjamin Hebblethwaite. This presentation advanced the theory that rap lyrics are an accelerant in the dissemination and acculturation of Arabic religious lexical borrowings. Study of several song samples revealed social commentary on perception as well as introspection of Muslims in France. For example, a line from rap singer Médine mentions *les djinns* (ghosts), *hijabs et les jeans*, hence bringing to a mental intersection Maghre-

ban folklore, the politicized issue of Muslim women's religious head coverings and a clothing symbol of French secularism. This talk pointed to the *Dictionnaire de la Zone* as a resource for deciphering many Franco-Arabic terms, and suggested that rap is a forum for cross-cultural reflection beyond France's borders.

Dakar's Centenaire Pidgin: an emergent trade language in a West African Chinese market by Fiona McLaughlin was a fascinating introduction to the diversions of urban and rural dialects within Wolof, Pular (also used in Senegal's national assembly), use of some English, French and Spanish, and the recent influence (late 1990s) of Mandarin Chinese in that region. The latest addition to the language mix developed with the rising commercial activity of merchants bringing inexpensive/highly affordable Made-in-China wares to popular markets in Saint Louis and Dakar. The ideal circumstances for development of a pidgin have formed, McLaughlin said, where the opportunity for comparative linguistic study abounds.

Finally, the organizer of the workshop, Hélène Blondeau, spoke about research titled *French in Contact on the Island: Cultural Diversity and Individual Trajectories in Montréal*. Can Québécois French-speaking judges distinguish native spoken Québécois from "neo-Québécois" – the variety of non-native French speakers that move to Québec for economic reasons and whose language habits adapt to the norm. The year-long project with colleagues Mireille Tremblay and France Martineau is focusing on speech patterns of youth in two Montreal neighborhoods. Blondeau's delight with the success of the workshop was obvious, "This is what true professional collaboration is like. We listen to each other, and cross-fertilization happens." Certainly this close attention to human communication helps in pondering international dynamics.

This FFRI workshop was free and open to the public. A reception followed the opening session on Friday evening. It was served graciously by volunteer students of the linguistics department.

FACULTY NEWS

Theresa Antes

I have been busy with research in 2014. In July, I published an article entitled "Audio Glossing during Information-Gap Activities: The effect on learner output" in the journal *System*, and in October I submitted another article entitled "Audio Glosses as a Mediational Device for Acquisition of Second Language Vocabulary: A Case-Study" to *L2 Journal*. These articles represent the culmination of lengthy data collection and analysis of the language produced by learners of both French as a foreign language and English as a second language. They strive to show how we can integrate technology more effectively into current classroom instructional practices. A third article is in preparation based on data collected during these studies. Since our last newsletter was published, I presented at the ACTFL annual conference in Orlando in November 2013, at the AATF annual conference in New Orleans in July 2014. I will present again at the ACTFL conference in San Antonio in November 2014. My presentation topics have varied, but involve a theoretical question of interest for language teaching professionals, combined with practical suggestions for application in the classroom or in multi-section language programs. I continue to actively supervise MA theses, and am proud to report that two of my students successfully defended their theses and received their Master's degrees this past year. Congratulations to Ryan Gallant and Ann Healy for their excellent work in French Applied Linguistics.

Hélène Blondeau

As undergraduate coordinator for French and Francophone Studies I am delighted to advise our students regarding their progress toward their Minor, Major and their many study abroad options. Last summer I had the pleasure to travel to France with a group of UF students for our program *UF in Paris: Culture and Language in Context*. On the research front I am pleased to report the renewal of the collaborative project on French in North America *Le français à la mesure d'un continent* funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council. In this context I co-organized a colloquium in Paris last June *Métropoles francophones en temps de globalisation* and I am currently pursuing a sociolinguistic fieldwork in Montreal. I have also been

awarded a grant from the Quebec Studies Program for a project on the emergence of new francophone language practices in Montreal. For the project I traveled to Quebec to collaborate with specialists in my field. During the past year I also visited Aston University in the UK as a distinguished research professor and presented six papers related at conferences in the US, Canada and France. I have also published two articles in a special issue of the Canadian Journal of Linguistic focusing on sociolinguistics issues in Montreal. While the first one, in collaboration with Michael Friesner, 'Manifestations phonétiques de la dynamique des attributions ethnolinguistiques à Montréal' deals with ethnicity, the second one, in collaboration with Mireille Tremblay, 'Hybridité et variation dans les SMS : le corpus Texto4Science et l'oralité en français montréalais' provides a sociolinguistic analysis of text messages. In addition I also contributed a book chapter on the French of Anglo-Montrealers in collaboration with my former mentors and I have another book chapter in press 'La nature métropolitaine de Montréal et le français d'ici'.

Rori Bloom

In 2014-2015, I am on sabbatical in Paris working at the Bibliothèque Nationale de France on my new book project on literature and the decorative arts in the Ancien Régime. Not only am I enjoying the rich resources of the library, but I am also taking time to explore museum collections and attend performances that resonate with my work. As well, I am assembling and developing materials for my new undergraduate course on the cultural history of Versailles to be offered in Fall 2015 as FRT 3004. The course will focus on Versailles in the 17th and 18th centuries as an entry point into French history, politics, art, and literature but will also include screenings of several contemporary films that show the continuing symbolic importance of Versailles in French culture. In addition to my research and teaching endeavors, I am also contributing to two academic databases: Nineteenth Century Literature Criticism (with an annotated bibliography of Mme de Duras's novel *Ourika*) and the Literary Encyclopaedia (with an article on *Manon Lescaut*). Finally, I am organizing the annual meeting of the Southeastern American Society for Eighteenth-Century

Syvie Blum

I gave an invited paper on "Rithy Panh: 'I remember' (*Je me souviens*) on his last film "L'Image manquante" at the 31st Annual conference on Psychology and the Arts, in Madrid (summer 2014) and earlier delivered a paper on "White Elephant: Revisiting the colonial plot: Marguerite Duras and Rithy Panh" about "Barrage contre le Pacifique" at the Australian Association of French Studies, University of Queensland, Brisbane, in December 2013. Locally, in celebration of Women's Day, I presented on Coco Chanel with "Filming Chanel", for the Alliance Française in March 2014. I also gave an invited talk on Francophone film productions for the International Business students organization at U.F. in October 2014. I am engaged with preparations for two news classes in Spring 2015 1) The music of cinema and 2) Mémoire musicale on French Music and literature. An Honors class on Edmonde Charles-Roux's biography of Coco Chanel – part of the uncommon reading Honors program, will be offered in spring 2015 as well. Just recently, I organized a film screening for the Mois du documentaire in France and the world; Hernan Rivera Mejia's film "Autour d'un été" was selected for this event and thus premiered in the US (October). The film interviews the participants of *Chronique d'un été*, (1961) ranging from Edgar Morin to some of the 'actants' and technicians. It covers politics and early cinéma direct in 1960-61 France. This event was supported by the Institut Français/Images bibliothèques, the Services Culturels Français de Miami, and FFRI.

William Calin

I have been ill and on medical leave in the spring and fall of 2014. My most important recent publication is *The Lily and the Thistle: the French Tradition and the Older Literature of Scotland* (417 pages), University of Toronto Press, plus the usual articles, chapters, and conference papers.

Benjamin Hebblethwaite

I published the following articles in 2013-14: (1) Hebblethwaite, Benjamin and Mariana Past. (2014). "Fire in the House" (a translated excerpt from Michel-Rolphé

continued on page 15

Trouillot's, *Ti difé boulé sou istoua Ayiti* [*Burning Issues in Haitian History*] in *World Literature Today*. (2) Past, Mariana and Benjamin Hebblethwaite. (2014). "*Ti difé boulé sou istoua Ayiti: Considering the Stakes of Trouillot's Earliest Work*" in *Cultural Dynamics*. (3) Hebblethwaite, Benjamin. (2014). "The Scapegoating of Haitian Vodou Religion: David Brooks' (2010) claim that 'voodoo' is a 'progress-resistant' cultural influence" in the *Journal of Black Studies*. I presented on "Historical linguistic approaches to Haitian Creole Vodou rites, spirit names and songs: the founders' contributions to *Asogwe Vodou*," at the *Workshop on Linguistics in Haiti and the Dominican Republic* held at the UF on April 2, 2014, through the support of the Bavarian Funding Programme for the Initiation of International Projects. On October 28, 2014, I presented my project, "Cycles of Salutation in the Rada Rite: Fundamentals and Particulars in the Greetings of the Haitian Vodou Rada Spirits" at Duke University. I received a generous Rothman Fellowship from the Center for the Humanities and the Public Sphere that supported 4 weeks of fieldwork in Paris in June, 2014, on rap and Islam in France. Currently I am enrolled in beginning Arabic courses at UF as I prepare myself for in-depth research on Arabic-French language contact in France. In the spring of 2015, I will teach *La linguistique de la chanson française* at UF, a course in French that weds linguistic analysis and ethnomusicology.

Carol Murphy

2014-2015 was an exciting year for my research and teaching. The centennial of Marguerite Duras's birth occasioned numerous invitations to participate in conferences and publications on her work. In March, I organized a panel at the 20th-21st Centuries conference in French and Francophone Studies in New York whose theme was "Money." My paper, "Going with the flow: Duras's changing economies of desire," will be published in *Contemporary French and Francophone Studies* in 2015. In August, I was invited to participate in the week-long Duras colloquium held at Cerisy-la-Salle, a 17th century château and conference center in Normandy. My paper, "Ecrire à l'infinitif: des territorialités durassiennes," will be published as a book chapter by the Presses universitaires de Rennes. I also contributed four entries to the forthcoming *Dictionnaire Duras*. My essay, "Seeing nature, poetically: Proust and Impressionism," was solicited by the Harn Museum of Art at UF for publication in their catalogue accompanying the exhibit "Monet and American Impres-

sionisms," opening in February 2015. My advanced undergraduate and graduate course in spring 2015, "From Impressionism to Surrealism: Artists and Writers in Twentieth-Century France," will take advantage of the Harn show. In February, I will present a paper at LSU entitled "Chutes and Ladders: Camusian Intertexts in Amélie Nothomb's *Stupeur et Tremblements*," a study that developed from my course on women novelists last spring. Finally, I was honored by my undergraduate alma mater, The College of New Rochelle, in June with a Woman of Achievement Award.

Alioune Sow

While continuing working on my book project on memoirs in African literatures, I co-edited with Cécile Canut (Paris-Descartes) a special double issue of the journal *Cahiers d'Etudes Africaines* (LIV (1-2), 213-214), part of a series of publications concluding three years of collaborative research on migration in Africa. For this issue, we co-wrote an article combining literary and linguistic analysis to theatre, titled « Nous nous appelons les voyageurs : Mise en scène des parcours migratoires dans le théâtre des réfugiés d'Afrique centrale à Bamako ». My work on new theatre practices and migration includes a book chapter titled « Migration et comédie de réaction : Le Visa de Kanute », which appeared in *La Migration prise aux mots*, (2014) and a special issue of the journal *Etudes Littéraires Africaines* coedited with Catherine Mazauric (No 36, March 2014) dedicated to migration and African literatures. I delivered one paper at UF titled "Migration et pratiques théâtrales à Bamako" and one in Paris « Le visa de Kanute : reconsidérer l'aventure ». I was also invited to Stanford to give a paper titled "Memoirs, religion and morality in Mali's national memory". I am still directing the FFRI and still teaching for the Center for African Studies and Languages, literatures and Cultures.

Brigitte Weltman-Aron

In 2014-15, Brigitte Weltman-Aron's book on Assia Djebar and Hélène Cixous, two contemporary writers who were born and grew up in Algeria, was accepted and will be published in 2015 by Columbia University Press. She also went to several conferences, including in Williamsburg, VA, where she saw La Fayette come on horseback to rescue the Insurgents in a spirited reconstitution. She continues



Hélène Blondeau and Benjamin Hebblethwaite at the "French in Contact" workshop

her work in the eighteenth century, and teaches a course on eighteenth-century French plays and theater this semester.

Gayle Zachmann

I am delighted to share news of my recent activities, and send my best to all. In 2014, I was named North American Editor of the international journal *Romance Studies*. With the support of the Florence Gould Foundation, I also re-launched the annual workshop *Cultural Production in Nineteenth-Century France* at the Université Paris Diderot-Paris 7. I have been awarded 5 grants and delivered 4 papers and 2 keynote lectures: "Humoring the Secular Republic: Marcel Schwob's *La Terreur Future*," in Richmond, "The Silent Enemy of the Republic. Jews? ...Or Antisemitism?," at Randolph College, "The Jewish Question in Post-Revolutionary France," at the University of Wisconsin, Green Bay, "Hatching the Republic in Marcel Schwob's *Conte des oeufs: Conciliatory Caricature and the Cultural Politics of Food*" at Paris 7, "Engaging Exoticisms and Adventures in Cultural Activism: Eugénie Foa and Marcel Schwob," at the University of Puerto Rico, and locally, as outreach for the Center for European Studies, "Belle Époque Paris and its Avant-Gardes." I wrote "Framing Impressionisms: Mirrors of Dissonance and Realism in Literature and the Visual Arts," to appear in *Monet and American Impressionism*, as well as a review on the neglected cultural activist Gustave Kahn for *Nineteenth-Century French Studies*. I continue to revise my book project on writer, photographer, journalist and resistant, Claude Cahun, have begun another on Marcel Schwob, and am working on a film that takes post-war France as its background, moving from WWII to the Entebbe hijacking. On campus, I am active in the Center for Jewish Studies and the Center for European Studies, and thoroughly enjoyed creating 3 new courses, one on Belle Époque France, another entitled "Children of the Revolution: Citizenship, Social Engagement and the French Avant-Gardes," and "'The Jewish Question' in Post-Revolutionary France," a study of France and the Jews from 1789 to the present.

