



**UF**

# **FRENCH AND FRANCOPHONE STUDIES**

*2016 Spring Newsletter*

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# GREETINGS TO ALL

Wishing all of you a peaceful and pleasant 2016, our ‘bulletin’ comes out a bit later this year but just in time for spring 2016.

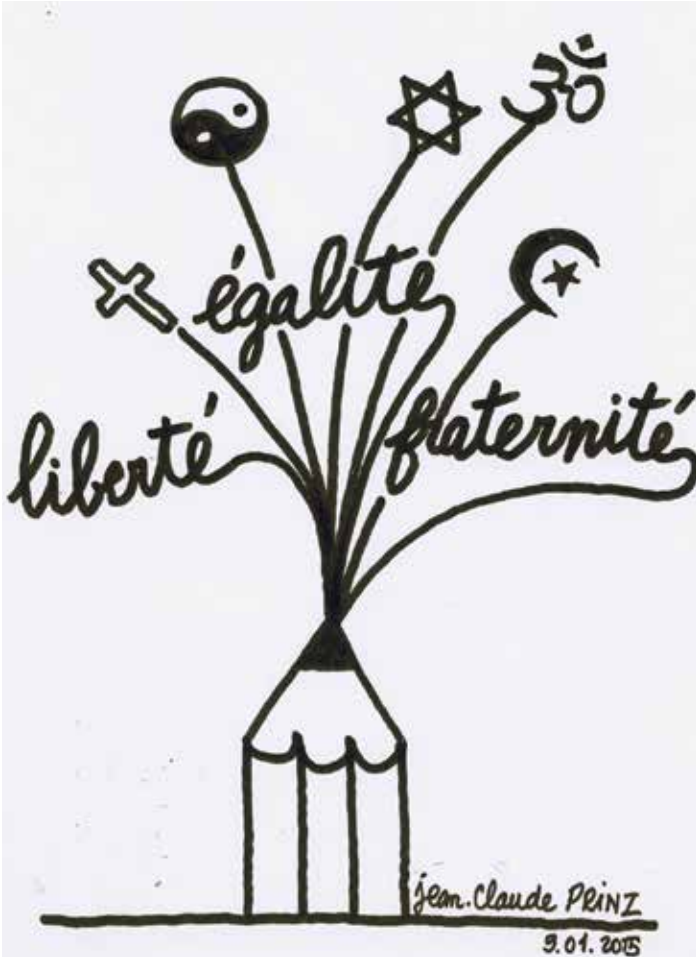
This has been a productive year for the French section with many accomplishments that are highlighted in the following pages. News of our faculty members and students illustrate our commitment and contribution to the University of Florida’s reputation for academic and international excellence. Our activities reflect our engagement with the various events that have taken place over the past year.

Our program sends about two students a year to attend a program at Sciences Politiques. Dr. Carol Murphy has given us an update on them. Annually, three or four students go abroad to teach in the TAPIF program in France; we have heard directly back from one of them, featured in the present edition of our newsletter : Hannah Morse reports on her first time experience living and working in Saint-Quentin, France. Our alumni are eager to present and update their activities and we learn each year with pleasure of their continued ties with French in the larger world. We are pleased to see that their background in French and Francophone Studies accompanies them in a wide array of academic and professional pursuits.

One of them, Beth MacGovern has sent a portion of her blog as a Peace Corps volunteer in Benin (see featured article on Benin). Another alumna, Lane Nieset has become a travel writer, and sends us some of her news via one of her published travel essays.

The France-Florida Research Institute has been active in its series of public lectures; the focus this year reflects on the current debate about climate change. **Imagining Climate Change: Science and Fiction in Dialogue** brought together French and American science fiction authors, graphic novelists, scholars, physical scientists and researchers, to discuss the effects of climate change on the physical environment and the human imaginary. The special project “French in contact” across multiple locations and its implications for cultural productions will continue in Spring 2016, with several guest speakers. The study focuses on linguistic practices and dynamics as well as investigates the changes and innovations in literature, cinema and urban music.

Our Study abroad program in Paris spear-headed by Dr. Blondeau is going strong, with a dozen of students moving their classroom to Paris in May-June; some of them benefited from scholarship assistance for the program such as the Conner scholarship. This past year, the recipient was Erica Hitchner (Double major: FFS & Anthropology) who attended the UF in



Paris Culture and Language in Context. A scholarship was also attributed to Nadj PIERRE (Double major: Neuroscience & FFS) for spring 2015 in Paris.

Congratulations are in effect for Dr. Blondeau who is the recipient of the International Educator of the year for CLAS! Many activities took place in the fall for our undergraduate student body, especially in view of President Fuchs’ inauguration, which consisted in a CLAS open house in Pugh Hall in December. We would like to hear from you. Continue to send any news you want to share and feel free to contact me or my colleagues for any updates or feedback.

Warmly,  
**Sylvie Blum-Reid**

# FRANCE FLORIDA RESEARCH INSTITUTE



You can include the caption: FFS Faculty and Graduate students at a recent reception  
Pictured are, from left to right: Dr. Brigitte Weltman-Aron, Kelly Wiechman, Jordin Patten, Dr. Hélène Blondeau and Jacqueline Lopez

This past year, the FFRI organized and hosted several activities. The 2015-2016 annual research project is dedicated to science-fiction and climate change. The aim of the project “Imagining Climate Change”, organized with Dr Harpold from the English Department, is to bring into conversation French and American scientists and Science fiction writers and initiate an interdisciplinary dialogue on the imperatives of climate change, investigate responses to climate change in both the scientific and cultural domains and stimulate scholarship on the topic. The ambition is also to emphasize the key role played by texts in the understanding and the responses to local and transnational imaginaries of climate change. The Fall 2015 colloquium (Oct. 9-10, 2015) brought together science fiction writers Jean-Marc Ligny and Nathaniel Rich as well as paleoclimatologist and paleoceanographer Andrea Dutton. The presentation were moderated by Amanda Vincent (French), Ron Taylor (Religion) and Sidney Dobrin (English). The second colloquium of the project will take place February 17-18, 2016. Participants include scholar Christian Chelebourg from Université de Lorraine, writers Yann Querro, Tobias Buckell and Jeff Vandermeer as well as Jay Famiglietti. These events are filmed and edited by Lauren DeFilippo who will release in January the first of two documentaries. “Imagining Climate Change” is co-sponsored by the Center for African Studies, the Center for the Humanities and Public Sphere, the department of English, the Florida Climate Institute at UF, the Science Fiction working group, the Water Institute and the office of the Dean in CLAS. We hope that this project, as the past ones, will contribute to building a productive network and lasting collaboration on these topics between UF and French and Francophone institutions such as the Centre d’Études Littéraires Jean Mourot.

In addition to the annual project, the FFRI has organized several events with the aim of exposing UF students and fac-

ulty and the general public to contemporary French literary production in its diversity. On April, 13th 2015, Award winning investigative journalist and filmmaker Marie-Monique Robin visited UF to present her new book and film. She gave a lecture titled “Our Daily Poison: From Pesticides to Packaging, How Chemicals Have Contaminated the Food Chain and Are Making Us Sick”. Her visit was sponsored by the TCD and MDP Programs (Centers for Latin American Studies and African Studies).

On April 20th, 2015, best-selling graphic novelist Annie Goetzinger presented her last work, *La jeune fille en Dior*, on the life of Christian Dior. Annie Goetzinger has published in multiple venues such as *Circus*, *L’Écho des Savanes*, *Fluide Glacial*, *Métal Hurlant*, *Pilote*, *Le Monde*. Her celebrated graphic novels and comic series include *Casque d’or*, *Aurore*, *L’Avenir perdu*, *Agence Hardy*, *Le Regard des jours* and *Marie Antoinette*, *La Reine fantôme*,

In 2015, the FFRI has also organized the French Film Festival. This year the festival was organized by graduate students Cara Bailey, Alexandra Cherry, Jacqueline Lopez and Farrah Mahroug. Films included Renoir’s *La grande illusion*, Wino-cour’s *Augustine*, Lanzmann’s *Le dernier des Injustes*, Mahamat-Saleh Haroun’s *Gris-Gris*, and Chou’s *Le sommeil d’or*. Additional support for the festival came from the Department of Languages, Literatures and Cultures.

The details of some forthcoming events are on our website: <http://www.clas.ufl.edu/Franceflorida/>.





# NEWS FROM FACULTY

## THERESA ANTES

I’ve spent a large portion of the 2014-15 academic year continuing my research into the acquisition and storage of fixed expressions by both native and non-native speakers. I’m currently looking at expressions that are not considered idiomatic by native speakers and that generally sit below their level of consciousness, yet that are stored as whole expressions and do not allow permutations of any sort. My research shows that awareness speeds the acquisition process for non-natives, who otherwise do not understand that these expressions cannot be analyzed word-for-word and cannot be altered. Without awareness, the acquisition process is slow and rarely demonstrates the same level of success as that attained by native speakers. Joined by a graduate student who served as a research assistant last year, I will be making a presentation of this research at the annual conference of the American Association of Applied Linguistics in April 2016. We have one article currently under review and a second in preparation. I intend to spend the summer developing a new study, this time to gather similar data from students of French as a second/foreign language. I continue to be busy supervising graduate students, as well. Special congratulations to Michelle Brown, who defended her MA thesis in May 2014, earning her Master’s degree in French Linguistics. Along the way, she was rewarded with an excellence in teaching award. If you’re a former student reading this, and would like to consider an MA in French at UF, please contact us!

## SYLVIE BLUM-REID

Spring 2015 was quite a challenge especially teaching 3 courses in spring, one an *Uncommon Reading* Honors class (1 CRH) on Edmonde Charles-Roux’s biography of Coco Chanel in English. After teaching the Senior Seminar ‘Mémoire musicale’ as well as ‘The Music of French cinema’, in spring 2015, two new courses, I am currently teaching the ‘Fashion and Women in French cinema’ class.

My article on “Small turbulence in French cinema: A portrait of Miou-Miou” appears in *FRENCH CINEMA IN CLOSE-UP- La vie d’un acteur pour moi* edited by Michael Abecassis and Marcelline Block (Dublin: Phaeton Press, 2015). A chapter “La part du chiffre dans *La Troisième Fille*’ has been published in *Créativité littéraire en Tunisie* edited by Najib Redouane. (Paris: L’Harmattan, Nov. 2015).

I presented five papers in 2015. “The Persistence of Memory: Hiroshima in Alain Resnais and Nobuhiro Suwa” for the Resnais Archipelago, Duke University, fall 2015. “Flaming Iguanas on the Road,” for the Sixth international Graphic and Comic Novel conference at University of London Institute in Paris, June 2015, “The Impossible Trip- Revisiting Paul Morand

## HÉLÈNE BLONDEAU

As the undergraduate coordinator for French and Franco-phone Studies, I continue to advise our students regarding their progress toward their Minor, Major and their many study abroad options.

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I am pleased to report that we have many students who have declared a double major or a dual degree adding French and Francophone Studies to their undergraduate experience. We have also a new dynamic Mentorship Program in French and Francophone Studies in which undergraduate students at the lower level could be paired with students at the advanced level and participate in a series of activities.

On the research front, I am delighted to report that I am acting as a collaborator for a new research project on the topic of Variation and Diglossia in Quebec French funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, Canada. In this context, I have developed collaborative work on the linguistic phenomenon of negative concord (with Mireille



Presidet K. Fuchs awarding Blondeau a International Educator of the Year award.

Tremblay, Université de Montréal and Heather Burnett, CNRS, Paris). Our paper ‘The variable Grammar of Negative Concord in Montreal French’ was selected from the NWAV conference and published in the University of Pennsylvania Working Papers in Linguistics. I have also given papers at conferences in Chicago, Montreal, Birmingham (UK) and in Paris, Caen and Mulhouse, France. In addition, I am pursuing my collaborative project on French in North America funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council. Finally, I have

recently completed my research project, funded by the Quebec Government, on the emergence of new francophone language practices in Montreal for which I have an article in press and another accepted. On the teaching front, I am developing a new course on French in Contact offered as a special topic in Spring 2016. Last summer, I also directed the UF in Paris: Culture and Language in Context study abroad program. Finally, I am also pleased to report that I received the CLAS, Educator of the Year Award last November.

## BILL CALIN

Being 79, I suppose, I was ill, really ill, with medical leaves of absence. Am now largely recovered, have started research in July, and will be back in the classroom in January. I’ll never retire!

A few articles came out: “Christianity,” in “Medievalism: Key Critical Terms,” ed. Elizabeth Emery and Richard Utz (Cambridge: Brewer, 35-41); “Sex, Violence, and Rural Provence: An Essay on Theodore Aubanel’s “Lou Pastre,” in “Amb un fil d’amistat: Melanges offerts a Philippe Gardy” (Toulouse: Centre d’Etude de la Litterature Occitane); 259-65; “Medievalism in a Minority Language: Frederic Mistral’s Wish-fulfillment Provençal Past, “Relief” 8.1, 48-60. Also my first paper since returning, “Medievalism and the French Counter-Reformation Baroque,” at the Thirtieth Conference on Medievalism, University of Pittsburgh, October 2015; another paper, on Peire Godolin, scheduled for the spring. I have been invited to give the first Brian Merrilees Memorial Lecture, Northrop Frye Centre, University of Ontario. The next major project: Classic, Rococo, Preromantic: Readings in French Poetry of the Eighteenth Century.

And The Donald vs. Hillary? I wonder if the neighbors of imperial Rome laughed at the Romans.

## AMANDA VINCENT

In 2015, I had the opportunity to share my research in a number of venues. My essay, “Image, Form, and Process in the Parc du Sausset” appeared in the collection *Disciples of Flora*, edited by Brigitte Weltman-Aron in collaboration with other UF faculty members, published in August. I also participated in a roundtable on teaching and researching in French Civilization at the the Society for French Historical Studies conference in Colorado Springs in March and presented a paper on the *promenade cinématique* series of gardens in Paris’s Parc de la Villette at a conference organized by the journal *Contemporary French Civilization* in Baltimore in September. During the *Imagining Climate Change* symposium co-sponsored by the France Florida Research Institute, I served as respondent for climate fiction author Jean-Marc Ligny’s presentation on his novel *Exodes*. I have also continued to teach Business French and Intercultural Competency for Management. In Business French, I have begun collaborating with teachers of Business English at the Lycée Marguerite de Valois in Angoulême, France to develop shared activities for our language classes.





## BEN HEBBLETHWAITE

I enjoyed teaching *La Linguistique de la chanson française* in the spring of 2015. We focused on hip-hop music and we used Abdelkarim Tengour's book *Tout l'argot des banlieues* (2013) to decode the surprising world of the urban French vernacular, a tongue peppered with Arabic, Nouchi (Ivorian slang), Romani, verlan syllable-switching, and so much more! Please join me for my courses on Haitian Creole and Haitian studies in 2016-17. Over the last year, some of my publications include, "Historical linguistic approaches to Haitian Creole: Vodou rites, spirit names and songs: the founders' contributions to Asogwe Vodou," an article published in the volume, *La Española - Isla de Encuentros / Hispaniola - Island of Encounters*, edited by Barzen, Jessica Stefanie, Geiger, Hanna Lene, and Jansen, Silke, 65-86. Tübingen: Gunter Narr. I also published, "Corrections on the History and Design of Haitian Creole Scrabble," an article in the *Journal of Pidgin and Creole Languages*. 30.2.345-348. Additionally, several UF students and scholars, including Tahiri Jean-Baptiste, Megan Raitano, Myrlande Denis, Andrew Tarter, Alexandra Cenatus and Richard Freeman, plus **one** scholar working at Duke University, Jacques Pierre, worked with me to publish a book and 3 compact disc collection, *Roots of the Fig Tree: Vodou Music and Culture in Haiti*. The book was published for the National Endowment for the Humanities grant project, The Vodou Archive ([www.dloc.com/vodou](http://www.dloc.com/vodou)), and was limited to 25 copies in commemoration of the inauguration of UF's twelfth president, Dr. W. Kent Fuchs. This year is the 50th anniversary of the National Endowment for the Humanities and our book is also designed to mark this special year in the history of this important funder of humanities research.

## CAROL MURPHY

I was pleased to spend a month in Paris last summer doing research at the Bibliothèque nationale de France on a new area in twentieth- and twenty-first century French literature and cultural production: the intersection of the visual and the verbal in literature. My interest was piqued by the essay on Proust and French Impressionism that I wrote for the Harn Museum's recent exhibition on American and French Impressionism, and I was able to develop this new research area in my seminar last spring on the influence of visual culture, in particular, painting, on authors such as Proust, Apollinaire, Cendrars and André Breton. I will be presenting a paper in March at the annual International Twentieth- and Twenty-First Century Colloquium in French and Francophone Studies in St. Louis, Missouri, on Marguerite Duras, "La Couleur des mots: le bleu et le noir de Marguerite Duras." I am honored to have been invited by the University of Sydney in Australia next summer to deliver the annual Sonia Marks lecture where I will address the subject of: "Coming to Language in Literature" through selected works by Proust, Sarraute, Duras and Colette, among others. I will also deliver a keynote address at their conference on "Duras and the Other Arts." My article on "Duras's changing economies of desire" was published by *Contemporary French and Francophone Studies* this past winter as well as an invited book review in the UK journal *French Studies* on a recent tome on the author Sylvie Germain. I look forward to teaching the Senior Seminar this spring where we will explore the topic of "Femmes de lettres: le roman au féminin au 20<sup>e</sup> siècle en France." I will also teach a course in English, co-listed with the Center for Women's Studies and Gender Research, intitled "Modern Families: Representations of the Family in Works by Contemporary French Women Writers."

## RORI BLOOM

The year of 2015 has been very productive for me. My article "Miniature Marvelous: The *Petit* as Personal Aesthetic in the Tales of Marie-Catherine d'Aulnoy" appeared in the *Journal of Marvels and Tales*, and I continue to make progress in writing my book manuscript on the decorative arts in fairy tales of the late seventeenth century. In fall 2015, I was able to travel to the Université de Toulouse to participate in a conference on miniaturization in the arts, and my paper on portrait boxes in seventeenth-century literature will be published in the forthcoming proceedings of the meeting. I taught a new culture course on Versailles: From Absolutism to Revolution and hope to offer it again in the future.

In spring 2016, I will showcase some of my current research in a course on women in seventeenth and eighteenth-century French literature. I enjoy working with applicants and students in the graduate program in French and Francophone Studies. I was pleased to host the annual meeting of the Southeastern American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies in February 2015 at the UF Hilton. The meeting featured keynote lectures by Mary Sheriff (Professor of Art History at UNC) and Peter Sabor (Professor of English at McGill) as well as presentations by our own UF alumni Joe Johnson, Giovanna Summerfield and Kate Fredericks.

## BRIGITTE WELTMAN-ARON

During the summer, Dr. Weltman-Aron received the 2015-16 Robin and Jean Gibson Term Professorship. She presented her work at two conferences in Montreal and Vancouver (Canada), and published an article on Cixous and sexual difference, and one on the legacy of the Algerian war of independence. She is currently working on eighteenth-century theatrical theories and on the philosopher Jean-Jacques Rousseau.

Dr. Weltman-Aron's book *Algerian Imprints: Ethical Space in the Work of Assia Djebar and Hélène Cixous*, was published by Columbia University Press (August 2015). [See Bookbeat] Her volume on gardens in history and culture co-edited with two UF colleagues, Victoria Pagán and Judith Page, appeared with Cambridge Scholars. [See Bookbeat]

## GAYLE MOSKOWITZ ZACHMANN

I am delighted to share news of my recent activities, and send my best to all. In 2015 I continued to serve as North American Editor of the international journal *Romance Studies*. With the support of the Florence Gould Foundation, I also co-organized the annual workshop *Cultural Production in Nineteenth-Century France* at the Université Paris Diderot-Paris 7, and I spent the summer conducting new research and interviews for a documentary film and that takes post-war France as its background, moving from WWII to the Entebbe hijacking, and co-produced with Boaz Dvir and Richie Sherman. This year, I have been awarded 5 grants and delivered 5 papers and 1 keynote lecture: "Happy as a Jew in France: Legacies, Crises, and Conscience," at Binghamton University, « Décombres de Claude Cahun : lettres et legs », at Université de Montréal, Montreal, "Terrifying Humanities and Contaminating Narratives in Marcel Schwob," at the University of Paris 7, "Sounding the Individual-Agent in Claude Cahun" at the Society for French Studies, Cardiff, U, "Contaminating Narratives: Grotesque messianism and Marcel Schwob's Plagues" at Princeton University, and "Happy as a Jew in France: Exoticism, Social Justice, and Cultural Activism in Franco-Jewish Literature" at the *American Jewish Studies Association* in Boston. My article "Figures Framing Impressionisms: Mirrors of Dissonance and Realism in Literature and the Visual Arts," appeared in *Monet and American Impressionism*, this year and I wrote "The Happy Jew: Legacies, Crises, and Post-Charlie Hebdo Conscience," to appear in Contemporary French Civilization. I continue to revise my book project on writer, photographer, journalist, and resistant, Claude Cahun, have begun another on Marcel Schwob. I was active in the Center for Jewish Studies and the Center for European Studies, and thoroughly enjoyed teaching 2 new courses: "Children of the Revolution, Citizenship, Social Engagement and the French Avant-Gardes," and "Resistance Literature."



BERNADETTE CAILLER

Publications:

- ▶ “La ‘grande douloureuse douceur’ (E. Glissant) d’Aimé Césaire: à propos de *Ferrements* (1960)”. Issue based on “Césaire 2013: « parole due »”, Cerisy-la-Salle, September 4-11, 2013 (Paris-Sorbonne, Rennes University, and Cheikh Anta Diop University, Dakar), *Présence Africaine*, no. 189, 2014, 47-60.
- ▶ “Poétique, Politique, et Éthique de l’Imaginaire dans *Les neuf consciences du Malfini* (2009) de Patrick Chamoiseau”, *Présence Africaine*, Imaginaire et urgence du social dans le roman francophone de la modernité, no. 190, 2014, 283-295.
- ▶ “Notebooks and Diaries in War Narratives: an Analysis of *Shaba deux. Les carnets de Mère Marie-Gertrude* (V.Y. Mudimbe, 1989), and *L’archet du colonel* (R. Confiant, 1998)”, *Cuttington University Journal of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences*, Liberia (CUJLASS). Volume 2 Number 1. 2015, 53-63. [Translated by the author. Revised original French text published as an appendix in the online issue, 64-74].

Forthcoming, 2016:

- ▶ “Schœlcher, Briand, Mandela, ou *la force de regarder demain* par les voix de Césaire, Perse et Glissant”. Articles based on a conference devoted to Saint-John Perse, Césaire and Glissant, UNESCO, Institut du Tout-Monde, Paris, September 2012. Hermann, Paris.
- ▶ “Aimé Césaire: Héritage et Hommage chez Abdourahman Waberi (*Moisson de crânes: textes pour le Rwanda, 2000*), Derek Walcott (‘Elegy — For Aimé Césaire’, 2010), et Nancy Morejón (‘Aimé Césaire’, 2010)” in a book based on a conference organized by the Centre Césairien d’Études et de Recherches, Martinique, 24–28 June, 2013. Jean-Michel Place, Paris.

Presentations:

“Entre culture et barbarie, enchantement et désenchantement: *Les boucs* de Driss Chraïbi (1955)”, 41st Meeting of the African Literature Association, University of Bayreuth, June 3-8, 2015. Planned: 1) “Quand les mythes de la filiation s’effondrent, ou comment lire *Paris berbère* (2011) ?” (*Réfléchir sur l’œuvre d’Hédi Bouraoui*, Dierre, June 8-9, 2016, Conference organized by the Centre d’Études Supérieures de la Littérature, Tours, Dir.: Frédéric-Gaël Theuriau. 2) Title TBA for “The Performance of Pan-Africanism: from Colonial Exhibitions to Black and African Cultural Festivals”, Winthrop-King Institute, Florida State University, Dir.: Martin Munro, October 20-22, 2016.

GEORGE DILLER

Après un été torride à Gainesville, l’Ardèche et la Drôme nous ont offert des lieux de réunion de famille par un temps bien moins rude. Rendez-vous devant l’art préhistorique de Chauvet, dans l’aven d’Orgnac (777 marches de descente), sur les lieux de Charles de Foucauld à Viviers et au musée des Canuts à la Croix Russe à Lyon.

Deux bonnes lectures: Alexis Jenni, *L’art français de la guerre* (Goncourt 2011), et Sainte-Beuve, *Port Royal* (une somme du XVIIe siècle français).

Et enfin, une production prodigieuse d’agrumes - mandarines, citrons, pamplemousses, oranges cet automne à Gainesville.

RAYMOND GAY-CROSIER

On February 15, a reception, offered by Dean Judith Russell (UF Libraries), featured the official presentation of my large collection of various Camus documents and manuscripts that I donated to the Department of Special Collections. Their contexts and a user-friendly catalog can now be consulted on a permanent library webpage: <http://www.uflib.ufl.edu/spec/camus/>. Since then, the catalog has been expanded by a special file related to two trials concerning copy right issues. In May 2015, the executrix of the author’s legacy, Catherine Camus won in an appeal for which she had asked me to provide a written expert testimony. Most recently, two keynotes appeared in their respective proceedings: “Si Cerisy 1982 m’était conté.” S. Bastien, A. Prouteau, A. Spiquel [dir.], *Camus l’artiste*, Presses universitaires de Rennes, coll. ‘Interférences’, 2015, p. 271 – 276; and “Exiled in a Spiritual Geography: Albert Camus’s Road to Values.” J. Herbert, V. Grégoire [eds.], *A Writer’s Topography. Space and Place in the Life of Albert Camus*. Leiden/Boston, Brill/Rodopi, 2015, p. 20-33.

FRENCH MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

By Taylor Parker



French mentors' activities at UF, museum of Modern Art, 2015

In a world in which developing technologies are paramount to the improvement of human life, it is easy to forget the importance of cultural awareness, history, as well as our histories with our international neighbors. As college students at one of the nation’s top research universities, it may even seem that languages or cultural literacy are irrelevant; however, The University of Florida’s French and Francophone Studies Mentorship Program asserts just the opposite. In an increasingly diversifying world where international relations, diplomacy, human rights, and social justice are integral to attaining a global unity that seeks to improve the quality of life for all people, possessing other skills that allow one to communicate with others and understand how to best employ technologies within their respective societies is directly related to what a French degree can offer. Here are a few examples provided by The University of Tennessee-Martin (<https://www.utm.edu/staff/globeg/frenchdegree.html>) of extraordinary, successful people that chose French as their major:

- ▶ Sarah Nash, a Research Staff Member of the Science and Technology Policy Institute, holds a bachelor’s degree in French from Dickinson College.
- ▶ J.K. Rowling, author of the Harry Potter series, graduated from Exeter in French and Classics.
- ▶ Marjorie Scardino, CEO of multi-billion dollar international media conglomerate, Pearson, earned a BA in French and psychology from Baylor University.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

[UFFMPI5@gmail.com](mailto:UFFMPI5@gmail.com) (will reach Co-Directors Maria Camila or Taylor Parker)  
[blondeau@ufl.edu](mailto:blondeau@ufl.edu) (French Undergraduate Adviser and Program Faculty Adviser)

Helping students understand the versatility of a degree in French is one of our main goals. Students in our program share a variety of interests between pre-professional studies, such as law and medicine, biology, business, economics, linguistics, and many other fields. Through interactions with our esteemed French Studies Program faculty, we hope to give students insight and inspiration to their future career goals while cultivating their interests of the Francophone world and language.

Our Mentors, usually students at or above the 3000-level within the department, are paired with students just beginning within the major or minor. Students are paired based on their interests, extracurricular activities, and fields of study in order to promote sound relationships between peers. In this way, students find that they can network in more than just Franco-phone studies, and thus find that they can make other acquaintances that share similar passions.

In an increasingly diversified and evolving global community, the practicality as well as the necessity of cultural awareness is critical to the success of the future. Students interested in French may not always realize the opportunities that are available to them and their specializations. With French as an official language of 29 countries and a significant global presence in economics as well as foreign affairs, the knowledge of French language and culture offers limitless opportunities for students within our local community as well as globally. The UFFMP is a new program that seeks to expose students with similar interests in Francophone studies to the world of opportunities available to them with their specializations in French. Although this is only our inaugural year, our program has already been able to meet some of these goals. Our students have explored some aspects of French cultural history, such as the 19th century Impressionist movement via the Monet Exhibit at the Harn Museum last Spring Semester. Our students also learn about cultural and social questions through fun, social activities such as film festivals at the Hippodrome (two of which our students have attended last Spring and this Fall). Presentations from our French Department on their careers and interests help our students think about how they can employ their own interests with their French degree with their respective interests. Through a combination of social activities, interactions with French department faculty and networking between our peers within the department, our program hopes to create an engaged population of aspiring professionals that are globally conscious and competent in world affairs through French.



# NEWS FROM SCIENCES PO by Dr. Carol Murphy

## UF’s Reciprocal Exchange Program with L’Institut d’études politiques

This year, two of our students studying at Sciences Po Paris wrote in to tell us about their experiences in the French capital after the November 13 terrorist attacks. Pedro Perez is a History major and Angélique Talmor is a double major in French and Francophone Studies and Political Science.

**ANGÉLIQUE:**

UF’s partnership with the internationally renowned Institut d’études politiques was established in 2002 and continues to be a vibrant study abroad opportunity for exceptional UF students interested in pursuing their studies in Political Science, International Relations, History, and language and cultural studies relevant to their chosen expertise. Sciences Po has six campuses in France which offer specialized area studies. In addition to Paris, the other poles include : Menton (Middle East and Mediterranean Studies) ; Le Havre (Europe-Asia Campus) ; Reims (European and North American Relations) ; Dijon (Central and Eastern European Studies) ; Poitiers (Europe-Latin America) ; and Nancy (European Franco-German Relations).

« Ce dernier mois à Paris a été difficile. Les premières semaines après les attaques du 13 novembre, Paris ne se ressemblait plus. L’exclamation de « fluctat nec mergitur » semblait moins forte que la hantise de la peur dans les rues vides près de Saint Michel et des Champs Elysées. Heureusement, le peuple français a montré son courage contre la nouvelle menace accrue de l’islamisme radical ; un mois après, Paris commence à revivre. Il existe une indignation juste contre ces barbares qui s’en prennent aux valeurs de la république, mais c’est une indignation qui s’accompagne d’une conviction que la France ne s’inclinera ni au terrorisme, ni aux islamistes. Entre temps, les Français sont contraints à vivre avec les consignes d’un plan vigipirate renforcé, et avec une vigilance accrue.

Sciences Po a repris un fonctionnement normal, avec un renforcement des contrôles de sacs et de cartes d’identités... des mesures qui avait déjà été mis en place après les attaques de janvier. Ces temps-ci, les débats sur les évènements et les décisions du gouvernement sont faciles à trouver dans les halls de 27 rue Saint Guillaume. Mais même en ayant vécu deux attentats terroristes pendant mon année à Sciences Po, je ressors de mon temps à Paris avec beaucoup de bons souvenirs et une nouvelle appréciation de la capitale où je suis née. Les ressources auxquelles les étudiants ont accès pendant leur séjour à Sciences Po sont excellentes et les professeurs sont de hauts niveaux (diplomates, ancien ministres, avocats internationaux). J’ai non seulement pu expérimenter une autre manière d’enseignement au sein d’une grande école française, j’ai pu faire connaissance de nombreux bons amis. De plus, l’école offre de nombreuses conférences de personnages importants : de Kofi Annan, Manuel Valls, Ban-ki Moon, et Tomas Pinketty à Arnold Schwarzenegger. En tout, je ne peux que qualifier cette année comme l’une de mes meilleures et comme une expérience enrichissante. »

**PEDRO:**

“Studying the French Revolution and the political edifice upon which our modern society was founded, while living in Paris, has been a remarkable experience. From class tours of Revolutionary Paris, to seeing the coronation of Napoleon by Jacques-Louis David at the Louvre, studying abroad converted into an adventure of rediscovering the past. Guarding the political testament of the Siècle des Lumières, are cultural and educational institutions, as Sciences Po. Remarkable professors have guided our learning abroad by recommending books, historical places to visit and the forging of friendships through group projects.

**Studying the French Revolution and the political edifice upon which our modern society was founded, while living in Paris, has been a remarkable experience.**

Complementing the extraordinary opportunity to study in a prestigious institution as Sciences Po, is the structural and social edifice of Paris, from reading a book at Luxembourg Gardens, to finding inspiration at the Louvre for a term paper, or eating with friends in the same neighborhood that once hosted the players of revolutionary France. This edifice was threatened November 13, 2015 by the enemies of liberty. Victor Hugo once noted that, “he who studies in Paris was born in Paris,” and on that tragic day, where hundreds of innocent people lost their lives to terrorism, I felt I was a Parisian. I felt obliged to defend the banner of liberty, by attending mass at Notre Dame and standing along the citizens of Paris at the Plaza of the Republic, symbol of freedom and republicanism.”

# TAPIF PROGRAM

Every year, the French and Francophone Studies program sends a few students to the teaching Assistantship program in France and overseas (TAPIF) for seven months. They teach English to students of all ages. The program is financed by the French government. It is a highly competitive program, which students apply for yearly. Each year, nearly 1,200 American citizens and permanent residents teach in public schools across all regions of metropolitan France and in the overseas departments of French Guiana, Guadeloupe, Martinique and Réunion.

This year, [Hannah Morse \(B.A. 2015 Journalism, French minor\)](#) who just graduated this past year was selected to work in Saint-Quentin. We corresponded. I was elated to hear back from her in December 2015.

**HANNAH:**

Since graduating with a bachelor degree in journalism in May 2015, I put my French minor to use straight away by accepting a 7-month position as an English teaching assistant with TAPIF (Teaching Assistant Program in France) in Saint-Quentin, France. I’d never been to France before. Since taking up the language in high school, it had always been one of my dreams to go--now I’d be able to live like a local, travel freely, improve my language skills, and see what it’d like to be like an international journalist.



Hannah in the main town hall square of Saint-Quentin



Hannah in the main town town of Saint-Quentin with Maurice Quentin de la Tour, a rococo portraitist.

Arriving in Paris was like a dream--exactly like I’d seen in movies and read about in books. But Saint-Quentin was an abrupt wake-up call. It’s a beautiful town with friendly people, but hardly anyone speaks English and I had been out of practice with my French, so it was time to really review and practice.

I have 15 classes in 3 primary schools, ranging from 4 years old to 11 and about 25 students in each class. Only a handful of teachers know some English, which makes translating activity instructions a bit easier. And the kids aren’t shy to correct me or fill in the word if I’m explaining something in French before translating it to English. From speaking to the other language assistants who teach collège and lycée, my école primaire students are always excited to learn English and are always happy to see me, bombarding me with bisous whenever I see them in the hallway.

The night of the Paris attacks, I was in my studio with two assistant friends, watching a movie and celebrating my birthday. I was turning 23 on that Saturday and we were going to go to Paris to get Chipotle and visit Montmartre. As soon as it turned midnight, I got a phone call from my mom. I assumed it was a birthday wish call, but instead she was asking me where I was. The shooting was still going on, and our attention turned from the movie to news websites and Facebook. Even though I was an hour away, I still was frozen with fear. For a while, I didn’t want to do anything or even go outside.

On Monday (my day off), my assistant friends said all of the schools had a moment of silence. On the next Tuesday, I walked into my CP class (kindergarten) and they were coloring. The teacher explained that they were drawing pictures of peace. I was here to teach the children English, but I also had to be here to show the kids not to be afraid. They shouldn’t have to worry about these things. Bad guys should only exist in movies and fiction.

The Christmas markets recently began to pop up, Père Noel lessons are underway, and vacation is only two weeks away. The air is cheery but cautious as the French try to move on and live.



# GRADUATE NEWS

by Dr. Rori Bloom, Graduate Coordinator

I am pleased to continue coordinating our graduate program and very glad to welcome 3 new students this year: Todd Peters from Webster University and Juliette Burger and Prisca Piccirilli from the Haute Ecole de Bruxelles. I'm also happy to see one of our combined degree (5 year B.A. + M.A.) students, Lidia O'Shields, complete her M.A. degree this spring. I hope you will enjoy reading the news of some other graduate students below:

## CARA BAILEY

This is my second year of my MA in French and Francophone Studies, and I am currently working on my thesis titled *L'écrivain comme instituteur laïc dans Vérité d'Emile Zola et Les Déracinés de Maurice Barrès*. After graduation in May, I hope to continue to a PhD in French. My first year at UF passed by more quickly than anticipated because of all the hard work that went into planning the Tournées French Film Festival over the course of several weeks in February of 2015. During the months of June and July, I also had the pleasure of studying in Avignon, France with the Institut d'Etudes Françaises d'Avignon. The program functions under the auspices of Bryn Mawr College and welcomes a renowned faculty every summer. Not only did I enjoy the provincial summer breezes (there were few this year), I also had the pleasure of living with a wonderful French host-ess who loved discussing literature after dinner! One thing I will miss about UF next year is how supportive and challenging the French department is. I feel that I have grown tremendously this past year, not just in my knowledge of French but in my desire to learn more about literature.

## ALEXANDRA CHERRY

Preceding the academic school year, this summer I worked as an "animateur" for the Québec-based company "Les Aventures Makwa" giving French-language tours of FL to 17 year-old students from Paris. Over the past academic year, I have attended the French "Festival du Documentaire" in November at the Hippodrome Theatre and Library West. I also instructed my third consecutive class of FRE1130 as a Graduate Teaching Assistant, welcoming débutant(e)s to the French language. This coming Spring, I will complete my comprehensive exams and defend my thesis on the topic of French comedic films, with a focus on how costumes aid comedy.


## JACQUELINE LOPEZ

My second year of the MA program has been a period of great growth and learning. Earlier in the year, I had the wonderful opportunity of coordinating and hosting the French Film Festival of Gainesville. With the help of my colleagues and Dr. Alioune Sow, we were able to establish a solid base for future French film festivals. Even though planning the film festival was challenging, I was able to learn so much more about French and francophone films, which was very gratifying. I am currently working on my thesis with the help of Dr. Gayle Zachmann. My thesis will focus on Eugenie Foa's "Contes Historiques pour Jeunes Filles" and her approach to the Jewish question and feminism in the early 19th century. Although it is a challenge, being a teaching assistant this year has been fantastic. It is a joy to guide students in their French studies by helping them see the influence of French studies in today's culture, politics and language. After I graduate, I plan on joining the TAPIF program in order to enhance my teaching and language skills.

## FARRAH MAHROUG

During the spring 2015 semester, I had the great opportunity of organizing the French Film Festival on campus with the help of three other graduate students from the French Department, under the supervision of Dr. Alioune Sow. Setting up the entire festival was a big challenge for me as I was still discovering the various advantages offered on campus. I am also active in the Lebanese American Society (LAS) since 2015. Although it is demanding to be a second year graduate student in the MA program, I am still taking great pleasure in teaching French to undergraduate students. In the meantime, I am preparing for the comprehensive exams that will take place in the spring and scheming my thesis topic on the process of the mystification in one of Diderot's tale with the help of my supervisor Dr. Brigitte Weltman-Aron. One chapter will be presented for the SEA-SECS 2016 conference in February 2016 in Savannah, Georgia. I am applying to Ph.D. programs in literature and hoping to continue on my research.



**Graduate Students in French and Francophone Studies**  Kole Odutola  
Students are as follows: Bottom row, from left: Jacqueline Lopez and Prisca Piccirilli Middle row, from left: Farrah Mahroug, Todd Peters, Juliette Burger  
Top row, from left: Cara Bailey and Lidi O'Shields

## JORDIN PATTEN

In this past academic year, I successfully completed my qualifying exams and from there I have been continuously working on my dissertation, entitled *The Relationship between Gender, Interruption and Conversational Roles in Naturally Occurring and Scripted Speech.* As I have not been to any conferences this academic year, I would like to pursue more during 2016 and present varying chapters from my dissertation. I would like to focus on research that involves masculine speech roles in relationship to gender and interruption use in exclusively male friendship groups in naturally occurring speech and films.

## KELLY WIECHMAN

The fall 2015 semester was a busy one for Kelly as she taught FRE 2220 and prepared for and passed the Ph.D. Qualifying Exams. She is looking forward to teaching two sections of FRE2220 in the spring and will be preparing for a conference at St. Boniface University in Winnipeg, Canada, taking place the first week of June. Kelly's research focuses on the Francophone groups that migrated to South Carolina during the 17th and 18th centuries and the effect that these populations had on the development of South Carolina from British colony to American state utilizing a sociolinguistic optic that also addresses language and identity attrition as well as Francophone onomastics in the South Carolina Low country, especially in the Charleston area. Kelly continues to serve as the department's representative on the Graduate Student Council.

## TODD PETERS

Never would I have thought that the University of Florida would be my home for this stage in my academic career. This lifelong lover of snowy landscapes and cozy fireplace scenes with a pot of tea and wool sweaters had to abandon those moments for the swampy heat of Gainesville. But this was the right decision for me. I'm a native of St. Louis, MO where I did my BA in French Studies at Webster University. During my time there, I was fortunate enough to teach English in L'Académie de Toulouse for a year. My professional life has included being a general manager of a retail store and a used car salesperson. Surprisingly enough, I never forgot my true passion for French Literature, Francophone cultural studies, and history. The literary milieu that interests me the most is poetry and the semiotics used to create the images and aesthetics in poetical works. I'm interested in the Romantic age to the present with inquiries into the passage from the Symbolists to the Surrealists and their influences on the contemporary literary environment. I'm also interested in cultural production and how literature and art intersect to define and to give credence to a particular space and time. I want to continue my studies to result in a PhD and teach literature and culture studies. I'd like to thank the University of Florida for this opportunity to pursue my passion.



# ALUMNI NEWS

## Graduate students

### CHRISTIAN AHIHOU

PhD French 2012

Christian is currently teaching French Language and Culture at Creekside High School (Georgia) where he enjoys interacting with his students while transmitting to them his knowledge of the French language and also sharing with them his passion of French and Francophone cultures. So far, the experience is new and very enriching in many aspects.

On the research side, Christian continues his work on French and Francophone literature. His second book manuscript is currently under-review at an publishing house in Paris. He also contributed to the writing of the forthcoming anthology: *Legacies of African Woman Writers* which proposes an examination of the work by first African women writers before it gets eroded by the upsurge of years. His book chapter: “Mariama Bá and Ken Bugul, Pioneer Women Writers in Francophone African Literature” in *Legacies ...* is a celebration of the two pioneers of the emergence and radicalization of women’s literature in French-speaking Sub-Saharan Africa. In April 2016, Christian will present a paper: “*Représentations des thèmes de migration transafricaine et de dignité humaine dans le roman d’expression française d’Afrique subsaharienne*” at the African Literature Association annual conference in Atlanta, Georgia. He is also working on other research projects, which will become more defined in the course of the months to come.

Christian remembers he concluded his entry in the last newsletter with a sparkling wishful “*Vivement 2015.*” But now, with so many works in progress, he can’t wait for a more and more successful 2016 year. *Vivement donc 2016 aussi!*

### NATALIE AMGOTT

PhD French 2015

In June of 2015, I defended my Master’s thesis, entitled “L’emploi des marqueurs discursifs en français chez des Montréalais francophones issus de l’immigration latino-américaine.” In August, I graduated with my Master’s in French (Linguistics track).

***I hope that my teaching experiences will allow me to continue learning more about foreign language teaching methodology.***

During my last two semesters of the graduate program, I was able to go to a graduate student conference in Linguistics at Georgetown and to the Association for French Language Conference in Caen, France. This semester, I have been starting and building the French program at Flagler College, where I taught two sections of Elementary French One. I also teach English as a Second Language at UF’s English Language Institute and continue as a sociolinguistic research assistant for Dr. Hélène Blondeau. I am very appreciative of UF’s BA/MA 4+1 program because it gave me the opportunity to study, teach, and research, all while improving my French. In the coming year, I hope that my teaching experiences will allow me to continue learning more about foreign language teaching methodology in order to apply it in my future classrooms.

### KATHLEEN DIAMOND

BA French, 1968; MA French, 1969

Kathleen Diamond writes to tell us that she has completed her term as Commissioner for the Certification of Healthcare Interpreters (CCHI). She received a crystal plaque commending her as founding commissioner of the organization and member of 6 years standing (2009-2015). The plaque recognizes her “remarkable dedication to CCHI and longstanding commitment to a national, valid, credible and vendor-neutral certification program for healthcare interpreters. October 5, 2015.” Kathleen has also generously contributed to study abroad opportunities for students in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences through the creation of the Diamond Scholarship.

### KATHRYN E. FREDERICKS

Ph.D. 2012, Director: Brigitte Weltman-Aron

Kathryn began her first semester as Assistant Professor of French at SUNY Geneseo in Fall 2015. At Geneseo, Kate teaches a variety of language, literature, and culture courses. She currently serves as the Instructor for Western Humanities II in Paris, which takes place in Paris, France each summer. Current scholarship activity includes: an article accepted in *Dalhousie French Studies*: “Visual and Philosophical Spaces in *l’Encyclopédie*: Geography in the Eighteenth Century”; and two upcoming conferences: ASECS 2016 Meeting (Pittsburgh, PA) and NEMLA 2016 Meeting in Hartford, CT.

### RYAN GALLANT

BA 2010/MA French 2014

I have started my second year of the PhD program in French Linguistics at the University of California, Davis. I am currently working on research regarding syllabification in L2 French. I am also currently teaching Beginning French 2.

### EVE HERSHBERGER

Ph.D. French 1975

In my 2013 update for the Newsletter I had just finished presentations in Vienna, Nice and Paris. The Paris presentation on Sophie Gay’s *Ellénore* was a springboard for a 2015 presentation at The Mountain Interstate Foreign Language Conference in Charleston encouraging instructors and students to become Wikipedia editors. In my 2013 Newsletter update I promised that an article for publication would follow. I turned the Vienna presentation on Henry James’s *The Turn of the Screw* and Longfellow’s “The Children’s Hour” into that article published in the *International Journal of Arts and Sciences* as “Dungeons of the Heart: How Freud Taught Us to Read”. The focus of the article was a parallel reading of James and Longfellow using Freud’s early insights into unconscious ambiguity bursting into consciousness. A new reading of Longfellow’s poem with connections between James and Longfellow that were surprising to me made writing the article feel like a literary detective treasure hunt. Speaking of treasure hunt reminds me that I am a book lover, a very small scale book collector and have even modestly explored the world of book trading as a dealer. Those interests came into play for the 2015 South Atlantic Modern Language Association (SAMLA) conference thematically focused on literature and the other arts. Before submitting an abstract for the conference, I am not sure why I reread Balzac’s *Le Chef d’oeuvre inconnu* but in doing so I was delighted to find an ambiguous work whose potential readings have intrigued illustrators, world-class artists (Cezanne, Picasso, de Kooning), bookbinders whose editions are worth thousands of dollars, writers, collector/editors, translators and movie directors. Incidentally in case you happen to find a 1931 Vollard-published/Picasso-illustrated edition of *Le Chef d’oeuvre inconnu* at a yard sale, after buying it, call Sotheby’s auction house immediately. This edition markets at over \$100,000.00. The cross-over between *Le Chef d’oeuvre inconnu* and the other arts and trades was perfect for the SAMLA conference. I certainly never suspected that I would return to my original UF dissertation target, Balzac, forty years later with two 2015 SAMLA submissions. For the Comparative Literature session I concentrated on *La belle noiseuse*, Rivette’s 1991 Cannes Film Festival, four-hour Grand Prix version of Balzac’s story mentioning also fictional rewrites (a type of literary palimpsest) by Henry James and Zola. For the SAMLA poster session with co-presenter Lynn George, we had a lot of fun selecting and arranging a myriad of available, on-line visual representations associated with illustrations and artistic masterpieces inspired by or mentioned in *Le Chef d’oeuvre inconnu*. Poster sessions, as SAMLA informed us, are relatively new at literary conferences but have been a staple for many years at medical and scientific meetings. This brings me full circle to mention that my next presentation may be at the 2016 Amsterdam psychiatric conference on Bipolar Disorder for which I am hoping to combine literary analysis

with my “day-job” as a psychiatrist. After the Amsterdam conference I am planning to spend some time at the location of my newest adventure, a fractional ownership of a tiny efficiency apartment behind Notre Dame, just over the bridge from Shakespeare and Company where last year I found a very nice partial set of *La Comédie humaine* including the original illustration of *Le Chef d’oeuvre inconnu*, a great addition for the SAMLA poster. At 3 euros per volume (the bookstore ships) it was a must-buy. I thank Shakespeare and Company for their reassurance via regular newsletter of their resilience and uninterrupted presence. EH at [evah347@aol.com](mailto:evah347@aol.com)

### E. JOE JOHNSON

PhD French, 1999

Joe is Professor of Foreign Languages at Clayton State University in metropolitan Atlanta. Having completed a five-year stint last summer as the chair of the Department of Humanities, he is now serving as the department’s Foreign Language coordinator and helping to implement “eMajors” in French and Spanish with a consortium of state universities in Georgia. With four more yet to come forth this year, Joe published translations of thirteen French *bédé* in 2015, including the translations of Annie Goetzinger’s *The Girl in Dior* (NBM Publishing) and Etienne Davodeau’s *Lulu, Woman Anew* (NBM Publishing). Last February, Joe happily made it back to Gainesville where he gave a talk on “Further Considerations on Mme Thiroux d’Arconville’s *De l’amitié* (1761)” at the 41st meeting of the Southeastern American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies (SEASECS). At the beginning of November, Joe presented a talk on “Children’s Friendship Deconstructed: Lucien Biart’s *Deux Amis* (1877)” at the 71st Annual South Central Modern Language Association (SCMLA) in Nashville, Tennessee. This semester, Joe was selected to become the co-editor and eventual editor of SEASECS’ annual journal XVIII: *New Perspectives on the Eighteenth Century*.

### CYNTHIA C. LEES

PhD French, 2006

Cynthia Lees is an Assistant Professor of French and Foreign Language Pedagogy in the Department of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures at the University of Delaware in Newark. She is currently developing a new course, Women Writers and their Worlds, to include iconic authors Gabrielle Roy, Monique Proulx, and Nicole Brossard as well as Francophone writers Marie-Célie Agnant, Ying Chen, and Kim Thúy who now call Montréal their home. Cynthia gave a talk “*Chez Nous* au Québec et en Nouvelle Angleterre: au carrefour de la poésie québécoise et franco-américaine» at the American Association of Teachers of French 2015 Convention in Chicoutimi, Québec. Cynthia and her husband Daniel have recently welcomed a granddaughter, Taylor Isabelle, into their family, and they continue to divide their time between Delaware and Florida.



# ALUMNI NEWS *Continued*

## PAUL SELÇUK MERTER

MA French, 1992

Après avoir terminé ma maîtrise en 1992 à l’Université de Floride, je suis rentré en France où j’enseigne l’anglais à l’Institution Mongazon à Angers. Depuis deux ans, je pilote un programme d’échange avec le lycée privé De la Salle Institute de Chicago. Mes élèves de 4ème et de 3ème passent deux semaines aux USA, reçoivent leurs correspondants américains en France et ils en sont ravis.

Cet échange est susceptible d’évoluer et de s’étendre sur la Californie. En effet, nous sommes en phase de réflexion afin de mettre en place un projet international avec le lycée Foothill High situé près de San Francisco.

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 internationales.

## PAMELA PAINE

PhD. French, 2000

Since retiring as an Associate Professor of French at Auburn University, I have taken an active role within the music community here in Montgomery and am thoroughly enjoying that. I am serving on the Montgomery Chamber Music Organization board and on the board for the Montgomery Symphony Orchestra. Lots of interesting and congenial people.

Stone sculpture is my newest fascination. I have completed several pieces in alabaster, limestone, and marble. A new sort of challenge. And, the new freedom has allowed me to experience some travel that has been on my to-do list for a long time. Two years ago I went to Russia (Moscow and St Petersburg). Then, this fall traveled to several places in China. Both experiences were amazing.

## BARBARA PETROSKY

PhD French, 2006

I created a new course on Algerian literature for my advanced students at the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown where I am an Associate Professor of French. I am the new co-director of the *Pitt in Paris* program. Last May, David and I took a group of students from the University of Pittsburgh to Paris, where I taught a new course on the representations of Paris in literature from the XVIth to the XXth century. I published an article on Pierre Loti and WWI in the Pierre Loti journal last June in Paris. I presented a paper on Maupassant and the prostitution, in correlation with the exhibit on prostitution at the Musée d’Orsay, at the Pennsylvania Foreign Language Conference at Duquesne University in Pittsburgh last September. In order to promote French culture, I have organized a film series in October. I am also co-chairing a new undergraduate literature conference for Western Pennsylvania which will take place in April 2016. I teach elementary Spanish courses, as well as intermediate and advanced level French courses.

## DAVID PETROSKY

PhD, French, 2009

After having taught a Renaissance Humanist course, and a medieval epic course as an adjunct professor at the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown, I have created a third literature course on courtly romance. As the co-director of the Pitt in Paris program, I have also created a new course on American expatriate writers in Paris which I taught last May. I am co-chairing the Western Pennsylvania Undergraduate Conference. I teach elementary French, literature in translation, and English composition.

## THE REVEREND JUDY G. QUICK, DEACON

BA French, 1992; MA French, 1993

The Reverend Judy Quick enjoyed a 25-year career with BellSouth Corporation (now AT&T) in sales, marketing and operations positions with experience in complex international projects, special event planning and financial management activities. As a loaned executive to the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games (ACOG), she developed and represented the Centennial Olympic Games Technology Plan to the international Olympic community. As an Instructor at Georgia State University (GSU), Ms Quick has taught graduate and undergraduate International Business and Management courses and has led international programs notably in France, Azerbaijan, and the Republic of Georgia. She has taught international business in Paris and in Beijing. She writes to tell us the following: “My life has been rich and rewarding. I shall always treasure my experience at the University of Florida for my wonderful academic studies and also for the international friends I made there. I did teach French at the very beginning of my career, first at Jacksonville Episcopal High School and then after I got married, at Valwood School in Valdosta, Georgia. I also worked one year for a French company in Valdosta (who knew?) SAFT, Inc. But in sum, I have had three wonderful careers, in business with BellSouth, notably working with the Olympics for five years in Atlanta, university teaching with a focus on international business, and now as an ordained minister in the Episcopal Church with a passion for global mission, reconciliation, and understanding. I tell folks that my seemingly useless liberal arts degree with a Master’s in Medieval French Literature enabled me to be very “trainable”. The critical thinking skills helped me in all my professional responsibilities.”

In addition to a BA and MA from UF with international studies at the University of Geneva, the Reverend Quick holds an MBA in International Business from Georgia State University. She completed the four-year Education for Ministry Program from the University of the South (Sewanee) and the Diocesan Deacon Formation Program. She has traveled extensively throughout the United States, Europe, the Middle East, Central Asia, the Far East, Central and South America, and the Caribbean.

## Undergraduate

## LEAH BOOTH

2012 BA French

A “real job” was not my dream. It was something I was taught to want through the many years of learning how society defines success. Fortunately, at university, I did pursue some of my truest passions: languages and cultures. Nevertheless, it was always engrained in me that this would be a difficult path by which to have a “successful career”, and that the day may come where there would be a choice: whether or not a salary was worth entering into a field where languages can be used, but play only a supporting role.

Naive, and attracted by the security of a salary that would assure student loan payments, I began a career in the international business sector. (Let’s be realistic here, by the grace of Bright Futures, which once came with full textbook funds, I was saddled with far less debt than most.) Still, the impending burden of loans weighed heavily on my “responsible” choices to go with a less creative career. I had studied business in school; it interests me and I enjoy applying myself to ensure I am adept in the field.

Three years passed, and a sudden realization hit. My fulfillment at work came from cultural understanding, working with others, learning together, and providing translational services that allowed for a greater customer experience. In short, my passions had become a lifeline of positivity in the sea of a daunting career path that was not my end-goal and did not allow for use of vacation for travel and language practice. Vacation, one thing that justified my 60 hour a week contributions, became no longer worth it.

This new experience taught a valuable lesson: why possibly fail to be great at things you don’t love, when you are able to attempt those about which you are ardently passionate? Looking back, the teachable moments and multi-cultural interactions were a source of pride and joy. Sometimes, the only source. Running a successful business was no longer challenging. Creativity in my work had become a must. It was time to make a change; although lack of security was terrifying, I aggressively researched the markets and began to position myself as a freelance language instructor.

Happily, we are now approaching my one year anniversary of working for a private language school at which I am able to teach students from all over the world. I work with almost all ages from eight to eighty, and even have the opportunity to act as their local guide on many occasions. We adventure, learn, and share together. This contribution uses my skill set and challenges me every day. Yes, it does require me to earn my hours, which can be unstable, but there will always be a student interested in learning English as a foreign language; the instability motivates me to constantly learn to become a better

instructor, which in turn creates a distinct presence of stability.

When I focus on my opportunities in the diverse South Florida market, I am able to create job security, where in reality, in my other career, I was replaceable; there is always another business manager, multilingual or not. Here, at my school, my skills and contributions have intrinsic value. With a background in English, foreign language learning, French, and German, my classes are in high demand. Moreover, they are fun. I can truly say I love my work, career, and life path.

I offer dual immersion instruction, regularly practice my languages, learn new ways of communicating, and even have the opportunity to study again. I have returned to the University of Florida via online enrollment to supplement my curriculum for accent reduction classes by studying in the speech field. My employing school supports my continued education because they value my academic development and contribution.

In short, teaching has opened doors that I never allowed myself to see through the imposed craze for corporate success. Please, if you are anything similar to myself, do not undervalue your instructors, their lessons, the significance of language, or your desire to be creative in your success. It is a happy thing to love your work.

\*A special thank you to Dr. Sylvie Blum-Reid, Dr. Helène Blondeau, Dr. Theresa Antes, Dr. Alioune Sow, and Dr. Rori Bloom and my fellow French majors for all that you have done in support of my development.

## ISABELLA ESCALONA

BA in French, Minor in Business Administration

Depuis la fin de sa licence en 2010, Isabella a poursuivi une carrière dans l’enseignement avec l’aide de ses connaissances en anglais, espagnol et français. Pendant l’année scolaire 2011-2012, elle a été affecté en Guadeloupe dans le cadre du Teaching Assistant Program in France (TAPIF). Partagée entre deux établissements, elle travaillait comme assistante de langue dans un collège et un lycée professionnel à Saint-Claude. À son retour en Floride, elle a travaillé dans une association qui a pour but de soutenir les parents à Saint Lucie County en leur proposant des formations pour améliorer leurs rapports avec leurs enfants, ainsi que pour leur développement professionnel et civique. Pour cela, elle a initié des cours d’anglais, de préparation pour le GED, de santé et d’informatique, parmi d’autres. Ses compétences linguistiques ont été indispensables pour intéresser et aider les familles dans les communautés hispaniques et haïtiennes. Après presque trois années d’enseignement dans cette association, elle a été sélectionnée pour un Fulbright English Teaching Assistant Grant au Sénégal pour l’année scolaire 2015-2016. Actuellement, elle enseigne l’anglais dans le Lycée de Jeunes Filles Ameth Fall à Saint-Louis.



**ANA GONZALEZ**

*BA French 2012*

Ana M. González, a 2012 summa cum laude graduate, is working as an associate in the New York City office of Sullivan & Cromwell LLP. In 2016, she will be admitted as an attorney to the Second Judicial Department as a result of passing the New York bar exam. Ana continues to focus on an international commercial practice and plans to expand the scope of her Latin American and European transactional experience in the coming year.

**JANELLE LYONS**

*BA French 2011*

Janelle grew up in Apopka, Florida. In 2011, she received a B.A. in French and Francophone Studies from the University of Florida. During her undergraduate career, she interned at the UFIC and volunteered as a Study Abroad Peer Advisor. After teaching English in France and serving as an AmeriCorps VIS-TA in Orlando, Janelle moved to Washington, D.C. for graduate school. She graduated from the George Washington University with an M.A. in International Affairs in 2015. Janelle is excited to return to UF and the UFIC as an F1 International Student Advisor. In her free time, Janelle enjoys keeping up with her French language skills, working on her Spanish language skills,



reading, listening to music, and doing yoga.

**EMILY MAZO-RIZZI**

*BA French 1999*

Just one month after my graduation from UF I moved to Paris. My family and friends thought it would be a short after college stay. 16 years later, I’m still here. I started off my life in Paris working first at UNESCO, then in the private sector and then back to the non-profit sector but my work was always as

an Internet Project Manager.

Fed up with life at a desk and behind a screen I made a dramatic career switch to become a Pilates Teacher. My French husband, Bruno and I moved to Boulder, Colorado for a year where I completed a 1 year training course to become a Pilates teacher. After a year of exploring the wild west and experiencing a fair amount of fascinating cultural differences we moved back to Paris. I have now been teaching Pilates for 5 years here, my business is called “Pilates de la tête aux pieds”. We also became proud parents to Olivia who is now 3 and just started “la petite section” or first year of pre-school.

I always say that my liberal arts major in French serves me on a daily basis and it truly does. For those of you who do not know Pilates you might be surprised to hear how important language and imagery is in teaching it. I teach Pilates in both English and French and love playing with language, its meaning and observing how different words and images influence the movements of my clients. Raising a bilingual child is another huge adventure in language exploration. Each day we catch ourselves surprised or laughing by some new word, phrase or expression Olivia has picked up! For me personally raising a bilingual child in Paris means that after all these years of doing my best to appear wholly Parisian and blending in as best as possible I am now out and about in the city speaking English to my daughter who is very often speaking back to me in French!

**BETH MCGOVERN**

*B.A. 2011 French (See feature article)*

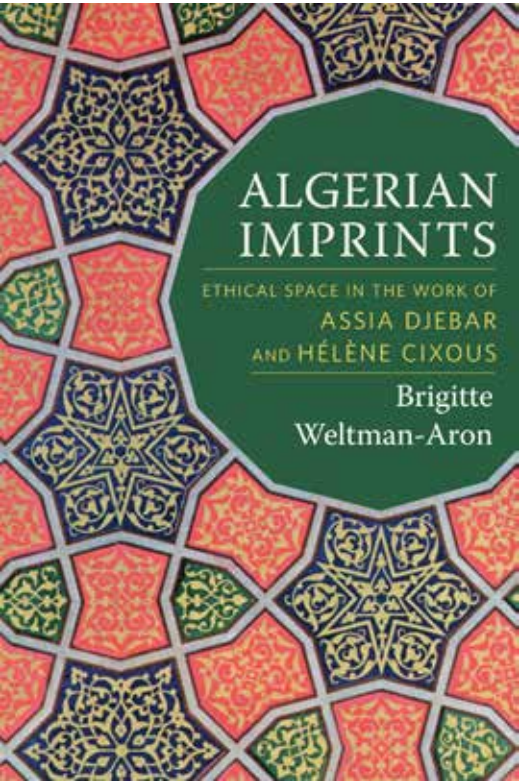
**HANNAH MORSE**

*(B.A. 2015 Journalism, French minor (see TAPIF Program article)*

**LANE NIESET**

*B.A. French, B.S. Journalism 2010 (See feature article)*

Over the past two years, I’ve developed a freelance writing career covering travel-related stories from my home base in Nice, France. I initially spent seven months teaching English in Nice during the 2011-2012 school year as part of the Teaching Assistant Program in France. I currently travel on assignment writing about destinations and hotels in Europe, as well as the Middle East and Africa, for a variety of publications including USA Today’s 10Best, Shermans Travel, Forbes Travel Guide and Travel + Leisure. For more on my travels, visit [travelswithlane.com](http://travelswithlane.com).



**Algerian Imprints**

Ethical Space in the Work of Assia Djebar and Hélène Cixous

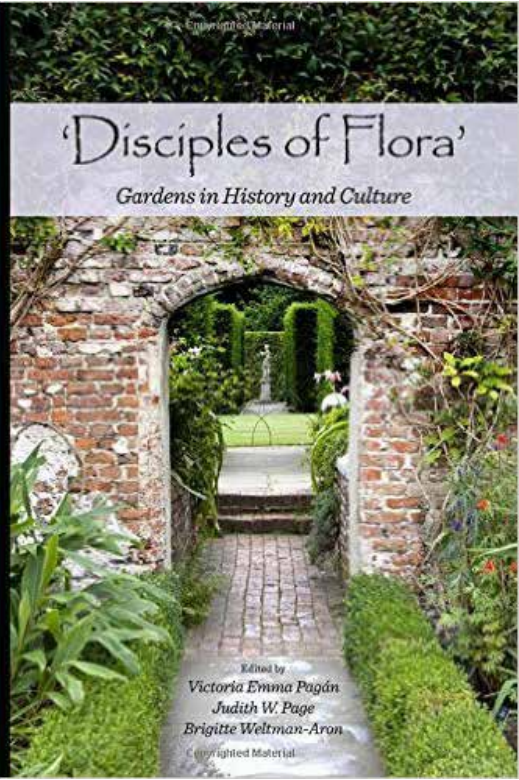
*Authors: Brigitte Weltman-Aron*

Dr. Brigitte Weltman-Aron’s Algerian Imprints: Ethical Space in the Work of Assia Djebar and Hélène Cixous, was published by Columbia University Press (August 2015). This book analyzes an ethical/political injunction in the works of Assia Djebar and Hélène Cixous, two writers who were born and grew up in French Algeria. It argues that both inscribe discordant histories within their works in order to reappraise the political on the basis of dissensus, that they endow with positive ethical virtualities.

**Disciples of Flora**

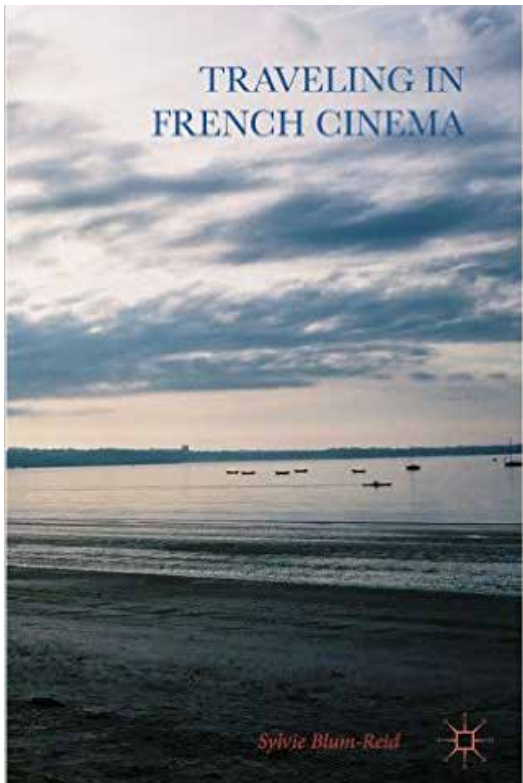
Gardens in History and Culture

*Co-edited volume by Victoria Emma Pagán, Judith W. Page, and Brigitte Weltman-Aron*



Disciples of Flora: Gardens in History and Culture, a co-edited volume by Victoria Emma Pagán, Judith W. Page, and Brigitte Weltman-Aron, was published by Cambridge Scholars in 2015. The book originated from an interdisciplinary conference the editors co-organized on the same theme at the University of Florida in February 2013. This collection of essays contributes to a revision of histories of gardens by broadening the scope of scholarly inquiry to include a long history from ancient Rome to the present, in which contesting memories delineate new apprehensions of topography and space. The contributors draw attention to alternative landscapes or gardening practices, while recalling the ways in which spaces have been invested with an affective dimension that has itself been historicized.

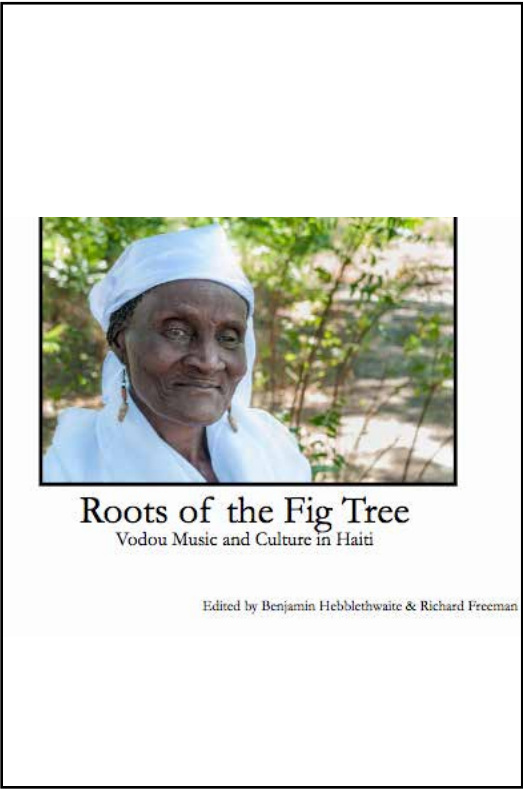




Traveling in French Cinema

*Authors: Blum-Reid, Sylvie*

This book covers different travel modes and tropes at play in French cinema since 1980 to the present day. It follows the archetypal figure of the traveler and the way these journeys are 'performed.' Films travel for us, spectators, and we in turn virtually take off with them. Examinations of departures and returns, as well as destinations and healing rituals attached to travels, take place, as do the way women travel and the urgent situation of migrants attempting to find refuge in the Global North across borders. The book questions high-speed travel, efficiency and technology at a time when slow speed and inner reflection are being revisited, and analyses film narratives that offer a way out of the daily routine and allow the traveler to escape a situation at home.



Roots of the Fig Tree

Vodou Music and Culture in Haiti

*Edited by: Benjamin Hebblethwaite & Richard Freeman*

“The captive Africans transported across the Atlantic migrated with African religious traditions that they firmly established in the colony of Saint- Domingue (1697-1803) and in independent Haiti (1804). The devotees of these religious traditions are grounded in a belief in one God, Bondye, and they serve intercessor spirits that exist in a cultural system with rich mythological, ritual, historical, and familial underpinnings. African spirit-systems, ritual knowledge, and organizational structures migrated with the African captives to Saint-Domingue, evolved in the colony, and persist into the present day.” (Hebblethwaite 2015:65)





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