

Encompass



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NEWSLETTER FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS OF THE
IU DEPARTMENT OF COMPARATIVE LITERATURE

Alexa Huang Presents Wertheim Lecture in Comparative Drama



Alexa Huang (fifth from right) with faculty and students at the lecture reception.

On November 5, 2015, the Department of Comparative Literature was delighted to welcome Alexa Huang, Professor of English, Theatre and Dance, East Asian Languages and Literatures, and International Affairs at George Washington University, as the presenter of the third annual Albert Wertheim Lecture in Comparative Drama.

Professor Huang's talk, entitled "Worlds Elsewhere: Global Shakespeare and its Discontent," explored aspects of embodiment of Shakespeare's plays, as the number of professional productions of his plays around the world has grown. These embodiments have added layers of cultural complexity to audiences' perception of the plays, through performances by a wider range of actors, but also through use of language, costumes, set elements, and music from the "host" cultures. As a result, these productions both enhance our awareness of the roles of cultural difference within the plays, which were written and performed at a time of increased encounters with

other cultures, and create dialogue between Shakespeare's plays and cultures around the world in our own time.

Professor Huang's talk drew an audience of students, faculty, alumni, and friends from Comparative Literature, as well as other departments, including English, French, and Italian, Theatre and Drama, and East Asian Languages and Cultures. The questions after the talk led to lively discussion. On the second day of her visit, Professor Huang met with graduate students and faculty from several departments for an informal conversation over coffee and lunch about the issues raised by her talk.

At George Washington, Professor Huang also directs the Dean's

Scholars in Shakespeare program, and she co-founded and co-directs that university's Digital Humanities Institute. This past year, she was the Frederick Burkhardt Residential Fellow at the Folger Shakespeare Library, a fellowship sponsored by the American Council of Learned Societies. In 2014-15, she was the Fulbright Distinguished Chair in Global Shakespeare Studies at Queen Mary University of London and University of Warwick. Her latest book is *Shakespeare and the Ethics of Appropriation* (Palgrave, 2014).

At the lecture, the department announced the inauguration of new Wertheim prizes for the best essays on comparative drama topics written for undergraduate and graduate courses in Comparative Literature. The annual Wertheim Lectures in Comparative Drama commemorate the life and work of Professor Albert Wertheim, who held appointments in English, Comparative Literature, and Theatre and Drama at Indiana University. We thank Judith Wertheim, Theodore Widlanski, and Martha Jacobs for their generosity in making this series of lectures and related events possible.

*Rosemarie McGerr
Director of Graduate Studies
(Photographs by Dacha Tran)*



Alexa Huang addresses her audience in the University Club.

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Encompass

This newsletter is published by the Department of Comparative Literature with the College of Arts and Sciences, to encourage alumni interest in and support for Indiana University.

For activities and membership information, call (800) 824-3044 or visit <http://alumni.iu.edu>

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From the Chair

Once again I have the privilege of writing to our comparative literature community about all that has happened in the past year. First, I'd like to welcome two new colleagues, professors Sonia Velázquez and Daniel Lukes, to the faculty. Sonia, who also teaches in Religious Studies, has joined us by moving part of her appointment line from Theatre and Drama to Comparative Literature, and Daniel is in the first year of a Visiting Assistant Professorship. We extend a warm welcome to them! These are two fabulous additions to our family of comparatists who are already offering us many new areas of much-needed expertise, ranging from Spanish drama to twenty-first-century fiction. We can take great pleasure in knowing that their achievements will be adding glory to new issues of Encompass.

The department has been busy with new initiatives and several public events during 2015–16. As our feature article explains in some detail, in the fall semester, we hosted the distinguished scholar Alexa Huang for the third annual Albert Wertheim Lecture in Comparative Drama. Professor Huang's presentation

on Shakespeare around the world, entitled "Worlds Elsewhere: Global Shakespeare and its Discontent," was splendid, attracting a wide array of people from our department and from around the university. Dacha Tran, this year's exchange student from Université Paris-Ouest Nanterre La Défense, took the photographs of Alexa's visit that we have included here. Another important event took place when Rosanna Warren, Distinguished Service Professor at the University of Chicago and one of the most widely respected poets in the United States, gave a poetry reading of both her own work and her original translations of poems from several languages. Also, Professor Eileen Julien and her collaborators were awarded a very substantial NEH grant of almost \$200,000 for an interdisciplinary and international summer institute dedicated to African culture. It will take place this July here in Bloomington.

In January 2016, alumnus Joon Park visited Bloomington to speak about the value of his undergraduate education in the humanities, something of great importance in this day and age. Joon, who majored in Comparative Literature and East Asian Studies at IU, is Chief Operating Officer at Alyeska Investment Group, a firm that



Joon Park spoke with his former professor, Eugene Eoyang, after his talk.

handles investments for institutions such as the University of California and Washington University in Saint Louis. He gave a talk entitled "The B.A. in the Humanities and My Journey in a Globalized World." His presentation was among the most memorable I have heard on the importance of the humanities and the liberal arts. We had an informal question and answer session afterward, followed by dinner in the FabLab, an arts location in downtown Bloomington. Joon is among the most articulate spokesmen for the humanities in an era in which its huge significance in higher education and in our democracy has been unwisely questioned by some. I particularly enjoyed his detailed recollections of challenging readings from his classes on East-West literary interrelations from years ago. One of his favorite teachers, Professor Emeritus Eugene Eoyang, attended with his wife. It was great to see them get together again.

When I told William Adams, the chairman of the National Endowment for the Humanities, about Park's talk, he asked to see information about the event, and I sent it to him.

This spring, we sponsored a presentation by José Pedro Silva, visiting professor from the University of Lisbon, who also taught a special eight-week class on the interrelations of Greek and modern drama to an enthusiastic group of students. On April 19, 2016, he spoke about the mysteries of "Saudade"—that

elusive and alluring Portuguese word expressing a combination of longing and loss—for a special gathering of comparatists and friends. Good conversation and food followed his memorable talk.

Another new development at IU Bloomington was the second large-scale graduate student conference in comparative literature, in early April 2016. The chief organizers were our own graduate students and SAB members. Submissions came in from all around the country, and the final roster of presenters came from five states. One speaker came all the way from Stanford University. (For more details, see the section featuring graduate news.) A particular high point was a keynote address from Scott Herring of the IU English Department informing his intrigued audience about rarely seen documents and manuscripts from the Samuel M. Steward Collections in the Kinsey Institute. This second graduate student conference built on the exploration of gender, theory, literature, and culture that was clearly of interest during the first conference, in the spring of 2015.

Turning toward the national scene, the annual ACLA conference took place at Harvard University from March 17 to 20, 2016. I saw many alumni there who came to present talks or attend lectures. I was delighted and proud to be in the audience when honorable mention for the Horst Frenz Prize went to Meg Arenberg, one of our current graduate students. Later, more good news followed. Meg was recently awarded a two-year postdoctoral fellowship at Princeton University!

I am sorry to have to inform our community that yet another of the early comparatists died in early 2016. Harry Geduld, pioneer of film studies at IU, died on January 10, 2016. Professor Anthony Guneratne, a former student of Professor Geduld, commemorates him in this issue

in a remarkable tribute to his late mentor. Author of more than 30 books, Geduld was a much-loved teacher and the chief founder of the film studies program at Indiana University. Professor Geduld, who designed and implemented many new classes on film studies during his long career, also served as chair of this department from 1990 to 1996, as well as the first director of the IU Film Studies Program. In addition, he was Professor of West European Studies.

We were delighted to learn that the MLA has established a new prize in honor of the late Matei Calinescu. There has been much interest in Professor Calinescu's work, both here in the United States and abroad, and I was extremely pleased to learn that the New York Review of Books will bring out a translation of one of his novels in the near future. We have included more information elsewhere in this issue.

While it is important to remember our glorious past, I am happy to report about the comparatists of the future and how we will encourage them. Recently, I learned about the newly operational Sanders-Weber Scholarship fund for students majoring in Comparative Literature, up and running as of April 2017 and available annually thereafter. Those interested can read about it here:

<https://college.indiana.edu/student-portal/undergraduate-students/scholarships/sanders-weber.html>.

It is a fabulous opportunity for an outstanding student who is already dedicated to the study of comparative literature on the undergraduate level, and it should help us maintain the major in the years to come.

Even without this important new scholarship, we still do have a sizable percentage of our undergraduates who are showing academic excellence of one sort or another. At a recent College dinner,



Poet Rosanna Warren reads her work to a fascinated Bloomington audience.

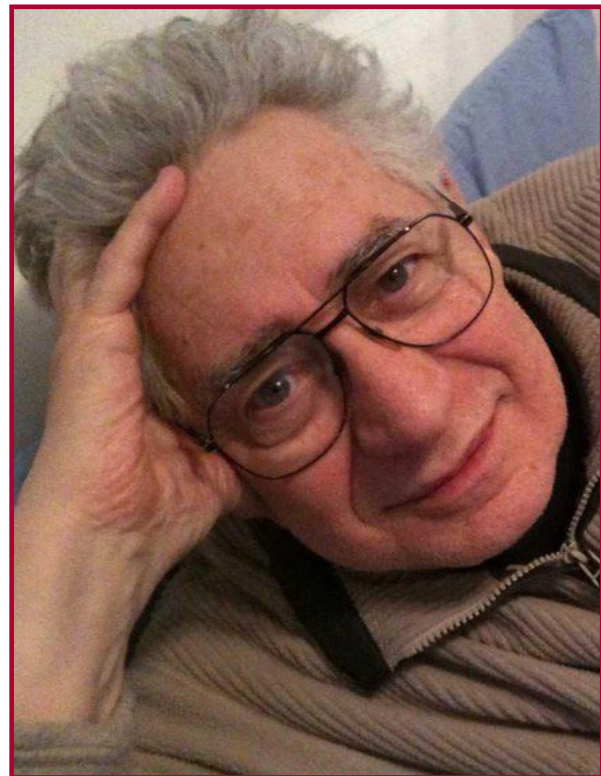
(continued on page 5)

Emeritus

In Memoriam: Professor Harry Geduld (1931–2016)

By Professor Anthony M. Guneratne

The decisive influence on my academic career was unquestionably that of Professor Harry Geduld. He was a walking encyclopedia of film and published at least one book a year, some of which I read as proofs. An insightful formal critic of canonical films and directors, he also had an astonishing command of issues in popular culture and of once-scorned topics that have now attained a certain academic dignity (fandom, memorabilia, the history of printing). He was, for me, an ideal dissertation director, with a passionate love of music and a surprising knowledge of the history of science: he invited ideas, was impatient with inferior ones, never dissembled in disagreement, insisted on the originality of thought, and



showed a marked preference for epic intellectual engagements over quibbling minutiae (but did quibble over minutiae when necessary). He read every draft I wrote as if he were offering Shakespeare suggestions about improvements that might have turned Titus Andronicus into King Lear — the reference is not casual: one of the books he presented to me, and which I have cited often in my own books and articles pertaining to Shakespeare, happened to be his monograph on Olivier’s Henry V adaptation. If my mother, a one-time stage actress, had set me on the course towards Shakespeare, then twining my interest in Shakespeare and film must have been left to him.

He listened with sympathy to tales of my wanderings from country to country in my younger years. Only later, some time after he had become a close family friend, did I discover that the travails of my childhood hardly compared with his, for he had lost relatives to monstrous regimes, heard bombs dropping on his neighborhood, and suffered an evacuation that separated him from his parents. His experiences marked

him but never diminished his passion for knowledge or his immense curiosity and interest in every dimension of the world. Through him I came to know and admire his family (and I still do not quite know whether they adopted me or I them): I was very close to his parents, who predeceased him, and have remained profoundly attached to his wife and his sons. I have prided myself on finding the best of teachers, whether microhistorians or film historians, New Historicists or semioticians. Professor Geduld had little patience for the rhetoric

of theory, even less for the sloppy character of translations of certain learned works from French and German. But he taught me to respect strongly held beliefs, was patient with my own very different interests, attempted without success to reform the profligacy of my tastes in art and music, and had me stay with his family in his home as I completed my first monograph (a decade after I had ceased to be his charge), reading and commenting on the final chapter as the pages left the printer. In recompense, all I could do was the occasional favor, such as bundling his sick English Sheepdog into my car and flying off to the vet with my pizza deliverer’s sense of traffic regulations: the dog, a gigantic thing who had never resisted the instinct to herd Professor Geduld’s sons when they were young, unfussily climbed into the back seat of the car of his own accord, filling its entirety, while Professor Geduld sat in the passenger seat and closed his eyes during my more unnerving maneuvers through a warren of streets.

Over the course of what has turned out to be a longer academic career than I could have envisaged, it often occurred to me that it is unlikely that I could have learned as much about film from any other film historian; utterly impossible that I would have learned as much about life from anyone else at all. Over time, what will abide will be a sense of gratitude that what he passed on to me is what I have tried to pass on to many of my own students in an academic sense (one of his books is on the syllabus for my grad seminar) and in the larger sense of carding the wool of life and knitting a fabric fitted to the future.

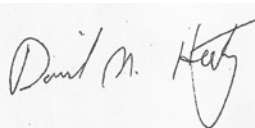
Anthony R Guneratne (Ph.D., *Comparative Literature and Film Studies*, IU, '94) is Professor of Communication and Multimedia Studies, and Director, Graduate Certificate in Film and Culture, at Florida Atlantic University.

From the Chair

(continued from page 3)

I was very pleased to join a table of recent Phi Beta Kappa initiates who are studying comparative literature. These included Comparative Literature majors Bryn Boatman and Rebecca Ferber (who also held a very prestigious Wells Scholarship while at IU), as well as CMLT minor Paul Morris. CMLT minor Megan Vinson was also initiated that evening. I also should mention that CMLT major Madeleine Steup had been initiated into Phi Beta Kappa in fall 2015. It was a great pleasure to be amongst such bright undergraduates who are interested in our field.

Please continue to send your news. Our Encompass issues serve to bring us together from many corners of the globe, and we very much delight in the information that comes in every year!



Professor Douglas Hofstadter reflects on a text in class.

Faculty News



Jacob Emery
Professor Emery published the essay “Danilo Kiš’s Metafictional Genealogies” (*Slavic and East*

European Journal, Fall 2015).

Three other essays are forthcoming: “Species of Legitimacy: The Rhetoric of Succession around Russian Coins” (*Slavic Review*); “Sigizmund Krzhizhanovskiy’s Poetics of Passivity” (*Russian Review*); and “The Customs House of Hades: Why Dickens and Gogol Traffic with the Underworld” (*Yearbook of Comparative Literature*). Reprints of two more essays are in the works—one in a centennial volume dedicated to Andrei Bely’s Petersburg, the other in a Russian-language anthology of criticism on Vladimir Sorokin. A monograph, *Children of the Revolution: Fantastic Families in Russian Modernism and Beyond*,

is due out from the Slavic Series at Northern Illinois University Press.

He also gave invited talks at UC-Berkeley, Stanford, and Harvard, and presented at conferences in Vancouver (MLA) and Tokyo (International Congress of East European Studies). In the coming year, he is slated to speak at Princeton University, at a symposium on Russian science fiction at New York University, and at a symposium on passive resistance in Delhi. In addition, he is co-organizing (with Alex Spektor) the first-ever conference on the recently discovered Russian modernist Sigizmund Krzhizhanovskiy, to be hosted by IU Bloomington and funded by the College Arts and Humanities Institute and a National Endowment for the Humanities grant administered by Russell Valentino. He has been awarded a small research grant by the Russian and East European Institute, as well as a College Arts and Humanities Institute research fellowship and a New Frontiers in the Arts and Humanities fellowship, which will fund a teaching leave in the 2016–17 academic year to complete a book on clone fiction.

David Hertz

In April 2015, Professor Hertz gave a talk to the Committee on Social Thought, University of Chicago. The title of his presentation was “Eugenio Montale and the Great Modern Cycle of Love Poetry.” It was followed by a poetry reading of Montale poems, both in the original and in translation, with the participation of Rosanna Warren, Rebecca West, and Sylvia Guslandi. Hertz’s work at the NEH continues. He attended two more White House events, and in July 2015, he visited the offices of the two Indiana senators and Congressman Todd C. Young to speak on behalf of the humanities, both for NEH and IU.

(continued)

Faculty News



Bill Johnston
Professor Johnston published a translation of Polish writer Tomasz Różycki's 2004 mock epic poem

"*Twelve Stations*" (Zephyr Press, 2015). In January 2016, the book was long-listed for the PEN Award for Poetry in Translation. In April, he gave readings with Różycki at the AWP Convention in Minneapolis and at IU Bloomington. In the spring, Johnston served as sole judge of the Harold Morton Landon Poetry Prize awarded by the Academy of American Poets. Throughout the year he continued to work on his new translation of Adam Mickiewicz's 1834 epic poem, *Pan Tadeusz*. He is currently finishing work on an ethnographic study entitled "Coming into the Word: Ethnography of an Evangelical Christian Language School in Poland," to be published by Multilingual Matters.



Eileen Julien
Professor Julien (Comparative Literature and French and Italian) published "The Critical Present:

Where is 'African Literature'?" in *Rethinking African Cultural Production*, Frieda Ekotto and Kenneth Harrow, eds. (Indiana University Press). She presented a paper on Claude McKay and Richard Wright titled "On the Road in France in the 1920s and 1950s," at the annual

meeting of the African Literature Association, in Bayreuth, Germany, in June; and gave a keynote, "An Intellectual Portrait in Patchwork," at the IU Bloomington Phi Beta Kappa induction ceremony in December. Julien was interviewed by Laure Malecot in Dakar, Senegal: "De la Nouvelle Orléans au Sénégal: une histoire d'amour" (*Actuelle* 24, October 2015). With South African and IUB colleagues, she won a NEH grant for a 2016 summer institute for college and university teachers: "Arts of Survival: Recasting Lives in African Cities" (see page ?). Julien continues as Director of the IU Institute for Advanced Study.



Paul Losensky
Professor Losensky continued his study of the relationship between architecture and poetry

in the early modern Persianate world with the publication of "Square Like a Bubble: Architecture, Power, and Poetics in Two Inscriptions by Kalim Kashani" in *Journal of Persianate Studies* 8, (2015): 42-70. He also provided an introduction ("Public Works and Public Lives: Biographical Sources for Patrons, Writers, and Artists in the Premodern Islamic World") for the exhibition catalogue *Pearls on a String: Artists, Patrons and Poets at the Great Islamic Courts* (ed. Amy S. Landau. Baltimore: The Walters Art Museum and Seattle: University of Washington Press). In October 2015, he lectured at Yale University and the University of Illinois on the literary culture of 17th-century Iran and the self-representation of the poet in the work of Sā'eb Tabrizi. He presented a paper at the ACLA meeting in Seattle in March 2015. Last but not least,

he was promoted to full professor at Indiana University Bloomington.



Daniel Lukes
Daniel Lukes is working on two book projects: an edited volume, *Conversations with William T. Vollmann*,

a collection of interviews with Mr. Vollmann, under contract with University Press of Mississippi; and *Triptych: Three Studies of Manic Street Preachers*' The Holy Bible, a collaborative book on the Welsh rock band's 1994 album, due out from Repeater Books in early 2017. In 2015 he had a chapter, "Surrogate Dads: Interrogating Fatherhood in Will Self's *The Book of Dave*," published in *Configuring Masculinity in Theory and Literary Practice* (Rodopi Brill), and two book reviews: *Out of This World: Science Fiction But Not as You Know It*, by Mike Ashley, in *The Journal of the Fantastic in the Arts* 24.3, and *Deep Ends: The J.G. Ballard Anthology*, edited by Rick McGrath, in *Extrapolation* 56.3. He translated Emanuele Coccia's article "Things of This World: On the Common Origin of Art and Market" from Italian into English for issue 60 of *The Yearbook of Comparative Literature*. He has also recently taught courses on popular culture, science fiction, comedy, and the graphic novel.



Rebecca Manring
Through the American Institute of Bangladesh Studies, Professor Manring organized a

conference on early modern Bengali literature at the Annual Conference on South Asia at the University of Wisconsin (Madison) in October, bringing together key scholars of the period for a full day of papers and exciting conversation. Her own paper, "Child Sacrifice in Rupram's *Dharmamangala*," draws from her current translation project of the mid-17th century Bengali epic.



Rosemarie McGerr
In fall 2015, Rosemarie McGerr and Hildegard Keller from Germanic Studies curated a

Lilly Library main gallery exhibit called "The Performative Book from Medieval Europe to the Americas" for the spring semester 2016. Using 80 items from the Lilly's collection, the exhibit demonstrated the ways in which medieval manuscripts not only performed or interpreted texts for readers for many centuries, but also served as performative space for individual expressions of visual and musical arts, religious faith, family history, and political debate. Medieval books also inspired many aspects of early printed books that either transmitted classical and medieval texts or new works, including texts about the Americas. In the modern period, medieval books continued to inspire new performances, including translations and adaptations in the visual arts, music, and film, in both



Europe and the Americas. Lilly visitors could enjoy recordings of readings and music performances from the



Soid Pastrana, Isthmus Zapotec artist; collaborator on New Frontiers grant "Zapotec Artists and their Art."

books in the exhibit, and several lectures presented information related to the exhibit, including one by Professor Stephen Nichols of Johns Hopkins University, co-sponsored by Comparative Literature. In February, McGerr presented the paper "Performing Community and Diversity: Song in *The Second Shepherds' Play*" at the Medieval Academy of America meeting in Boston. In May, she will present her paper on "Statues, Statutes, and Justice in The Pilgrimage of the Soul" at the annual International Congress on Medieval Studies. Her article "The Judge as Reader, the Reader as Judge: Literary and Legal Judgment in Dante, Machaut, and Gower" will be published later this year in Barton Palmer and Burt Kimmelman, eds., *Machaut's Legacy: The Judgment Poetry Tradition in Late Medieval Literature* with the University Press of Florida.

Anya Peterson Royce
Professor Royce was awarded the Medalla Guendabinnizaa [Spirit of the Zapotec People Medal] 2015-16, given by the Fundación Histórico Cultural Juchitán for distinguished scholarly contributions to the Isthmus Zapotec. She was the first non-

Mexican scholar to be a recipient. There was also a 2016 reprint of her book *Prestigio y Afiliación en una Comunidad Urbana: Juchitán, Oaxaca*. This was a special commemorative edition of the 25 most important books about the Isthmus Zapotec.

She received the New Frontiers exploratory research grant 2015-16, for her project "Zapotec Artists and Their Art: Heritage and Innovation." The following publications have been accepted and are currently in press:

"Landscapes of the In-Between: Artists Mediating Cultures," in *The Artist Turned Inside-Out*, a volume commemorating the 20th anniversary of the founding of the Irish World Academy of Music and Dance. Helen Phelan and Graham Welch, eds.

"Being Curated by a Divine Force: The Forty-plus year Success of the Pilobolus Dance Theater," a chapter in the volume *Psycho-Cultural*



Analysis of Folklore (in memory of Alan Dundes), P. Chenna Reddy and M. Sarat Babu, eds.

“Embodied Legacies: Dance Research, Dance Practice, Embodied Reflection,” in Proceedings of the Dance Legacies International Conference, Dance Ireland.

“Anthropologies of Dance and Movement: Transformations and Continuities,” in Proceedings of Choreomundus Symposium, Budapest, November 23.

Anya Royce’s blog posts for CaMP [Communication, Media, and Performance] can be read at the following addresses:

<https://campanthropology.wordpress.com/2015/09/14/a-matter-of-elephants/>

<https://campanthropology.wordpress.com/2015/10/27/making-dances-the-outsider-art-of-pilobolus/>



Johannes Türk

In preparation for a project investigating political affect, Professor Türk

presented a paper on the role of enthusiasm (for Shaftesbury, a synonym not only of inspiration but also of religious fanaticism) in relation to fragility and robustness at the ACLA’s annual convention in Seattle. He gave a keynote lecture at a conference on modernity and immunity in Leuven, Brussels, where he finally had the opportunity to meet Roberto Esposito. Most recently, he traveled to a workshop on universal history as well as a presentation in Paris, a city still under the shock of terror and in a state of emergency. He is happy that the departments of German and Comparative Literature continue to share excellent students and faculty,

and that as director of the Institute of German Studies he can help recruit graduate students who have an interest in both fields.



Sarah Van der Laan

Sarah Van der Laan’s first book, *The Choice of Odysseus: Homeric Ethics and Renaissance*

Epic, will appear with Oxford University Press. She published an article from her second book project, “Songs of Experience: Confessions, Penitence, and the Value of Error in Tasso and Spenser,” in the March 2015 issue of PMLA, and co-edited and wrote the introduction for a forum on “How to Read *The Faerie Queene*” for the January 2015 issue of *The Spenser Review*, the journal of the International Spenser Society. An exceptionally peripatetic 2015 saw her lecture on her first book at the University of Lisbon (Portugal) and present papers at the annual meeting of the Renaissance Society of America (Berlin, Germany), the International Spenser Society’s Spenser 2015 conference (Dublin, Ireland), the triennial International Milton Symposium (Exeter, United Kingdom), the biennial Conference



Professor Herb Marks enjoys a moment outside the IU Auditorium.

on John Milton (Murfreesboro, Tennessee), and the annual Sixteenth Century Conference (Vancouver, Canada).



Sonia Velázquez

Professor Velázquez is thrilled to have joined the department this semester. She is now teaching two

courses for CMLT, one on the Human Condition for upper-level undergrads and a 200-level course on Romance and the Western Tradition

Two articles came out in 2015: “Secular Spectacle?: Cervantes, Hardy and the Question of Religion,” *Republics of Letters* (Stanford University), special issue on *Cervantes on the World Stage*, ed. Barbara Fuchs. 4.2 (2015): 1-17, and “Sens-Contresens: La Transhistoricité de la littérature de Théophile de Viau à Octavio Paz,” *Versants Revue suisse des littératures romanes* 62:1 (2015): 123-30.

Recently at the MLA in Austin, she presented a paper from her second project on Cervantes, “The Politics of a Common Language in Cervantes’ *Los trabajos de Persiles y Sigismunda*,” as part of a guaranteed session on Cervantes’ last novel sponsored by the Cervantes Society of America, January 2016. Earlier in the fall, she organized two panels on “Giorgio Agamben’s *The End of the Poem* and Renaissance and Baroque Poetry,” at the 12th Biennial Conference of the Society for the Study of Renaissance and Baroque Hispanic Poetry, October 24–26, 2015, where she read a paper on “Fray Luis de León and *The End of the Poem* in ‘La oda en la Ascensión.’”

Emeriti News

Sumie Jones

(1) Published: “Tsutsui Yasutaka’s Teki (The Enemy); or, Faust for the Twenty-First Century,” in *Hosea Hirata*, et. al., eds., *The Poetics of Ageing: Confronting, Resisting, and Transcending Mortality in the Japanese Narrative Arts*, *PAJLS*, vol. 13, 2012 (actual publication, October 2015), pp. 310-334.

PAJLS is annually published by the Association for Japanese Literary Studies. This particular volume contains papers presented during its conference at Tufts University in November 2011. The keynote speaker at this meeting was Nobel Laureate Kenzaburo Oe.

(2) Forthcoming: “Translation as Overtaxing Reading; or, How to Compose a Japanese Rap in English,” *Special Issue in Honor of Lucien Stryk*, *Translation Review*.

Professor Jones was invited to submit an article on her theory of translation as explored through her experience as translator. This gave her an opportunity to write about her project of compiling an anthology of early modern Japanese popular literature in English. *Translation Review* is published by Routledge.

Ernest Bernhardt-Kabisch

Professor Bernhardt-Kabisch continues to translate the books of noted musicologist Constantin Floros. This past year he published his rendition of Floros’s Brahms and Bruckner as *Artistic Antipodes: Studies in Musical Semantics* (Frankfurt: Peter Lang, 2015) and translated *Music as Message: An Introduction to Musical Semantics*, which is currently in press. He is now working on translating the first volume of Floros’s three-

volume magnum opus on Gustav Mahler: “The Intellectual World of Gustav Mahler: A Systematic Representation.” He also translated a radio feature, “Cheat the Devil,” and a radio play, “Retirement Overseas” for West German Radio.

Eugene Eoyang

“Freud in Hunan: Translating Shen Congwen’s ‘Xiaoxiao,’” *Translation Quarterly*, 71(2014), 51-67.

“The West in the World: Subliminal and Paradigmatic Hegemonies,” *Soochow Academic* 东吴學術, 2014年第3期 (总第22期); ‘世界上的“西方方”: 下意识和 范式性的霸权,’ [楊慧儀譯], [English] 19-25; [Chinese translation] 26-31.

“The Case of the Mistaken ‘Jeweled Staircase,’” *Comparative Literature*, East and West, 20:1 (Spring-Summer 2014), 41-56.

“Perception and Reality: Changes in the Notion of the University and of Knowledge,” in *Echilibrul Intre Antiteze: Studi oferite profesorului Paul Cornea*, cu ocazia celei de a 90 - a anivers, edited by Laura Mesina. Editura universitatii din bucuresti Place: Bucuresti, Romania, 2014, pp. 81-98.

“The Case of the Mistaken ‘Jeweled Staircase Lament’: Pound Got It Wrong (But So Did the Chinese),” *Lisbon Consortium, Universidade Catolica*, May 25, 2015.

“The Uses of the Useless: Comparative Literature and the Multinational Corporation” (chapter 3 of *The Promise and Premise of Creativity: Why Comparative Literature Matters*), Department of English, Lingnan University, October 26, 2015.

“Jia Pingwa, the Concept of Ren 仁. and the Reading of Fiction,”

“Literature and Locale: An International Symposium on the Literary Works of Jia Pingwa,” Hong Kong Baptist University, 29 October, 2015.

At the ACLA in March 2015, Professor Eoyang presented a paper titled “Words and Concepts: How Translators Have Mistranslated and Misunderstood Basic Chinese Notions.”

Suzanne Stetkevych

Suzanne Stetkevych, Ruth N. Halls Professor Emerita of NELC, continues to teach Arabic literature as Sultan Qaboos Professor of Arabic & Islamic Studies at Georgetown University, Washington D.C.

Among her recent activities are papers presented: “Tawlīd al-Qaṣīdah al-Luzūmiyyah (The Genesis of the Luzūmiyyat: A Stylistics Approach to Abū al-‘Alā’ al-Ma‘arrī),” keynote lecture for the conference *Al-Manāḥij al-Naqdiyyah al-Ḥadīthah* (Modern Critical Methods), Sultan Qaboos University, Masqat, Oman, March 15-18, 2015; “Suzanne Stetkevych: Sirah Istishraqiyyah (Orientalist Biography)” at *Kulliyat Dār al-‘Ulūm*, Minya University, Minya Egypt. May 24, 2015; “Al-Shi‘r wa al-Mustaqbal: Takwīn al-Huwiyyah al-‘Arabiyyah fī ‘Aṣr al-‘Awlamah (Poetry and the Future: The Formation of Arab Identity in the Global Age),” at a conference on *Societal Growth and Industrial Development in the Arab Gulf*, sponsored by the Kuwait University Center for Arab Gulf Studies and the Arab Journal of the Humanities. Kuwait University, November 16-18, 2015.

While at Dār al-‘Ulūm College at Minya University, Egypt, she was presented an award for contributions to the field of Arabic literature.

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Among her recent publication are: “Min al-Mujtama’ ilā al-Mu‘jam: wajhay al-Insāniyyah fi shi‘r Abū al-‘Alā’ al-Ma‘arrī.” Majallah al-‘Arabiyyah lil-‘Ulūm al-Insāniyyah. Conference Proceedings: Al-Inṣan fi al-Fikr al-Islāmī wa-al-‘Arabī, Kuwait University, Nov. 11-13, 2013. (Special Issue 2015): pp. 187-204; “Arabic Literature,” for *The Oxford Handbook of Literatures of the Roman Empire*. Eds. Daniel L. Seldon and Phiroze Vasunia. Oxford Handbooks Online. Online publication: December 2015: <http://www.oxfordhandbooks.com/view/10.1093/oxfordhb/9780199699445.001.0001/oxfordhb-9780199699445-e-36>

“Al-Akhtal at the Court of ‘Abd al-Malik: The Qasīda and the Construction of Umayyad Authority,” in *Christians, Jews, and Zoroastrians in the Umayyad State (660-750 CE)*, eds. Fred Donner and Antoine Borrut, inaugural issue of *Late Antique and Medieval Islamic Near East 1* (2015) Oriental Institute, The University of Chicago, pp. 119-146.

The section on the Mu‘allaqah of Labīd of her book *The Mute Immortals Speak: Pre-Islamic Poetry and the Poetics of Ritual* (Cornell UP 1993, pbk 2011) has appeared as a book in Swedish translation: *Stumma Stenars Dunkla Tal*, translated by Hesham H Bahari and Astrid Ericson Bahari. Alhambra Klassiker. Furuland, Sweden, Alhambra Forlåg, 2015, pp. 152. http://www.alhambra.se/klaskisk/stumma_stenars_dunkla_tal.htm

For spring 2016 she is on sabbatical, doing research on the diwans of the blind Syrian litterateur Abū al-‘Alā’ al-Ma‘arrī. She spent two months in Cairo as a research affiliate of the American Research Center in Egypt and returned to the U.S. in March to present a paper on the night journey in al-Ma‘arrī’s poetry, on the panel

she organized for ACLA: The Arabic Qasida: Toward an Aesthetics for the 21st Century.

Bronislava Volkova

Professor Volkova has published her poetry in various languages and countries: Czech Republic (Partonyma, Rybáři odlivu, LitEra, Pražskij parnass), Bulgaria (Znaci), Croatia (Književna Rijeka), as well as a book of selected poems (Šepot vseleňnoj) in Russia.

She has also published translations of other poets in Czech: from Romania (Marius Chelaru), Ukraine (Viktor Melnik), Bulgaria (P.K. Javorov) and Russia (Tat’jana Zitkova) in journals and anthologies.

In addition, the following articles appeared this year:

“The Greats of Czech Popular Culture (1900–2000): Roots, Character and Genres”, in Elsevier: *Russian Literature* LXXVII (2015) I, pp. 123-134; available online at www.sciencedirect.com

“Semiotic Concepts of the Prague Linguistic Circle on the American Continent and the Theory of Emotive Language,” *Studies in Accentology & Slavic Linguistics in Honor of Ronald F. Feldstein*, Bloomington, IN: Slavica Publishers, 2015, p. 293-306.

A Czech version of this article appeared independently in *Český a polský strukturalismus a poststrukturalismus – historie a současnost*, Slezská univerzita v Opavě, Opava 2015, ed. Libor Martinek et al.

“Exil: psychologický, kulturně-historický, duchovní” in *Český Dialog*, 5, 2015: <http://www.cesky-dialog.net/clanek/6774-exil-psychologicky-kulturne-historicky-a-duchovni/>

Her collages and books have been exhibited at the IU Fine Arts Library from January 6 to February 9, 2016.

She has lectured at the University of České Budějovice, at the Czechoslovak Society of Arts and Sciences in Prague, in the Děčín gymnázium, Czech Republic, and at the IU Fine Arts Library, Bloomington.

She has been invited to give poetry readings at various poetry festivals: Galovičeva jeseň in Koprivnica, Croatia, Slavjanskíe tradicii and Den poezie in Prague, Czech Republic, and special poetry presentations at the Czechoslovak Society of Arts and Sciences and the Bulgarian Cultural Institute in Prague.

A review of her collected poems book *Vzpomínky moře* appeared in *Tahy, Červený kostelec* and a review of her selected poems in Bulgarian *Az sym tvojata sydba* appeared in *Literaturen Vestnik*, Sofia.

She has received a grant from IU’s Borns Jewish Studies Program, for *Z druhej strany duše* (Slovak edition of selected poems).

Salih J. Altoma

“The Ordeal of a City.” By Fawzi Karim. Trans. Salih J. Altoma. *AlJadid*, Los Angles. No. 68 (2015): 33.

“Poetry Out of Trauma.” Salah Niazi. *Dizza Castle: Selected Poems*. David Andrew, ed. (Hove, UK: Waterloo Press, 2014). *Free Verse* 26 (Summer 2015).

“A Note on Secularism at the Beginning of the 20th Century: A Different Lebanese Christian Perspective,” in Arabic, January 10, 2016. <http://www.alnaked-aliraqi.net/article/31150.php>

Alumni - In Memoriam

Kent Owen (1938–2015), who earned two degrees from IU in Comparative Literature (**B.A., 1962, M.A., 1964**), died on December 5, 2015, at the age of 77 in Bloomington. He was the son of Herbert T. and Mary Ellen (Yarling) Owen of Spencer, IN, and was very proud of his seven-generation Hoosier heritage.

Owen taught literature and writing at Albion College, Earlham College, and Indiana University. He also worked for the original *Saturday Evening Post* during its last year in Philadelphia. When he titled an article about Columbus, IN, “Athens of the Prairie,” it was a tag line that remained for many years. He also worked as a wordsmith at the Agency for Instructional Television and was published in the *American Spectator* and the *Wall Street Journal*.

Owen is survived by his wife of 54 years, Suzann Mitten Owen; daughter Marianne Mitten Owen of Lafayette; son Jordan Yarling Owen (Laura Brown) of Traverse City, MI; and brother John W. Owen of London, England, and his children.



Alumni News

John K. Gillespie (M.A., 1970, Ph.D., 1979), is the president of Gillespie Global Group. He recently published the bilingual English/Japanese book *Tips for How to Succeed in a Global Business Context* (IBC Publishing, 2014). He also translated three modern Japanese plays, including *The Couple Next Door* (Tonari no fūfu), by Masamune Hakuchō; *Two Women* (Futari no onna), by Kara Jūrō; and, with Chiori Miyagawa, *The Dressing Room* (Gakuya), by Shimizu Kunio, for *The Columbia Anthology of Modern Japanese Drama* (Columbia University Press, 2014). His chapter “Modern Japanese Theatre” has just appeared in the *Routledge Handbook of Asian Theatre*, ed. Siyuan Liu (Routledge, 2016). 日本人がグローバルビジネスで成功するためのヒント (Nihonjin ga gurōbaru bijinesu de seikōsuru tame no hinto). Tokyo: IBC Publishing, 2014.

Joe Reese (Ph.D., 1983), and his wife Pam (who writes under the name T. Gracie Reese) have just published (through Cozy Cat Press) the eighth Nina Bannister mystery. This one is called *Mind Change*, and it can be found by visiting their website at www.ninabannister.com.

Christian Moraru (Ph.D., 1998), Professor of English at UNC Greensboro, published two books in 2015: *Reading for the Planet: Toward a Geomethodology*, Ann Arbor, MI: University of Michigan Press, 2015, viii+ 248 pp.; and *The Planetary Turn: Relationality and Geoaesthetics in the Twenty-First Century*. Amy J. Elias and Christian Moraru, eds. Evanston, IL: Northwestern University Press, 2015, xxxvii + 272 pp.

David Lee Garrison (M.A., 1978), retired in 2009 after thirty years of teaching Spanish, Portuguese, and Comparative Literature at Wright State University. He recently reviewed Willis Barnstone’s book of poems and translations *Moonbook and Sunbook*, for *New Letters* (80.3-4), and his “Translations and Poems in Honor of Elias L. Rivers” appeared

in *Confluencia* (30.3). Last year he was named Ohio Poet of the Year for his book *Playing Bach in the D. C. Metro* (Browser Books).

Mark Axelrod (M.A., 1977), Professor of Comparative Literature at Chapman University, received a third Fulbright to teach screenwriting at Copenhagen University. He published two new books of literary essays with Palgrave/Macmillan and a collection of short stories with Black Scat Press. He also sold a screenplay titled *Malarkey* to be a feature film starring Malcolm McDowell.

Margot B. Valles (Ph.D., 2013), has been teaching at Michigan State University. Beginning in the fall 2016, Professor Valles will be shifting from Assistant Professor in the Center for Integrative Studies in the Arts and Humanities at MSU to Assistant Professor in the Department of English. Additionally, she and her husband, Sean Valles (IU, History and Philosophy of Science, Ph.D., 2010), are expecting their first baby in March.

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Mary Ann Cain (B.A., CMLT and English, 1980), Professor of English at IPFW, received an Indiana Arts Commission individual artist grant for 2015–16 to work on a manuscript about the Chicago artist-activist, Dr. Margaret Burroughs, co-founder of the DuSable Museum of African American History and the South Side Community Arts Center. The book is currently under advance contract with Northwestern University Press. She presented a paper on Burroughs and the SSCAC at the National Women’s Studies Association meeting in November. She has also published poetry in various journals, including the fall issue of *The Bitter Oleander*.

Sarah Burns Gilchrist (B.A., 2004, M.L.S., 2011), led a roundtable discussion on Universal Design for Learning (UDL), titled “Universal Design for Learning for Literacy, Leadership, and Libraries” at the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) conference in Portland, OR, on March 27, 2015. Gilchrist and Sarah Espinosa presented a national webinar for the Reference and User Services Association (RUSA) on “Universal Design for Learning, Information Literacy, and Libraries” on April 1, 2015. Further teaching on UDL was done during a May 8, 2015, workshop she lead with Claire Holmes and Sarah Espinosa at the Maryland Library Association-Delaware Library Association (MLA-DLA) 2015 Conference in Ocean City, MD. In addition to these presentations, Gilchrist published the following article and book reviews: “Rediscovering Renaissance Research: Information Literacy Strategies for Success,” portal: *Libraries and the Academy* 16.1 (2016): n. pag.; Rev. of Children’s

Literature in Action: A Librarian’s Guide, 2nd Edition. *The Library Quarterly* 85.4 (2015): 477-80.; and Rev. of *Start a Revolution: Stop Acting Like a Library*. *Endnotes: The Journal of the New Members Round Table* 6.1 (2015): n. pag. Gilchrist is currently the Research and Instruction Librarian for Education and Visual Arts at Towson University in Towson, MD.

Wendy Hardenberg (M.A., 2008), was granted tenure in 2015 and promoted to Associate Librarian at Southern Connecticut State University. In 2016, two novels that she translated from the French are appearing with AmazonCrossing: Aurélie Valognes’ *Out of Sorts* in January and Jacques Vandroux’s *Project Anastasis* in March.

Ashley Hope Pérez (Ph.D., 2014), Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Comparative Studies, The Ohio State University. On June 10, 2015, she welcomed her second son, Ethan Andrés Pérez, to the family. Her novel *Out of Darkness* appeared in September and was reviewed by the *New York Times Book Review* as “a layered tale of color lines, love and struggle,” in which “a tragedy, real and racial, swallows us whole.” *Out of Darkness* was one of two honor books recognized by the Printz Award for Excellence in Young Adult Literature, and it also appears on the American Library Association’s 2016 list of Best Fiction for Young Adults. In August 2016, she begins a tenure-track appointment in the Department of Comparative Studies at Ohio State, where she has been a visiting assistant professor since 2014.

Robert Waugh (B.A., 1964), published a book in August, a collection of his own weird tales titled *The Bloody Tugboat and Other Witcheries*. The publisher is Hippocampus Press.

Leonard Moss (Ph.D., 1959), has written prolifically since his retirement in 1990. Some of his best books include: *The Craft of Conrad* (Rowman & Littlefield, Lexington Books, 2011), *The Tragic Paradox* (Rowman & Littlefield, Lexington Books, 2012), *Darwin and Literature* (Rowman & Littlefield, Lexington Books, 2014), and *Along the Way: Owning an Identity* (unpublished memoir).

Devin Gardner Last (B.A., 1990), is currently working as an education consultant to several school districts in the Puget Sound (Seattle) area. He is happily married and a father to two children, Gael and Natasha.

Daniel Simon (M.A., 1994, Ph.D., 2000), published his verse chapbook *Cast Off*, with Edwin E. Smith Publishing in fall 2015 and has been nominated for the PEN Center USA, Oklahoma Book, and Independent Publisher (IPPY) awards. His second book, *After Reading Everything*, is forthcoming from London’s Eyewear Publishing in spring 2016. Individual poems have been nominated for Pushcart Prize XLI: Best of the Small Presses, and reprinted in the anthologies *World English Poetry* (2015) and *Oklahoma Poems . . . and Their Poets* (2014). They have also appeared in various literary journals—including *The Adirondack Review*, *Prairie Schooner*, *Poetry International*, and *Fulcrum*—and have been translated into German, Greek, Spanish, and Turkish. A poet and translator, Daniel is assistant director and editor in chief of *World Literature Today* magazine at the University of Oklahoma, where he also teaches for the Department of English. His professional memberships include the Academy of American Poets and PEN American Center. He lives in Norman, Oklahoma, with his wife and three daughters.

Graduate Student Spotlight

by Michael Bailey

I had the opportunity to catch up with Comparative Literature M.A. student Stephan Crowne-Weber. For the 2015–16 academic year, he has been appointed lecteur at Université Paris Ouest Nanterre La Défense, teaching various courses in English. Comparative Literature at IU has an excellent relationship with this Parisian university, routinely exchanging scholars for academic appointments.

Describe the courses you have been teaching, or one in particular that you’ve enjoyed beyond the others and why.

I have liked all of my classes and have loved teaching “Expression Écrite” (Written Expression) in particular. In “Expression Ecrite,” we’ve explored how to create a variety of documents in English, from a thank-you letter to a written advertisement. What I like about the class so much is that we’ve actually created examples of each genre in class. So, we wrote the opening to a short story together, and the students (who were game) had to come together as a group and create a coherent text.

Where is your favorite place to go in Paris and what do you do there?

Saint-Sulpice; listen to organ music.

Name the biggest difference between teaching French and American students.

When my American students at IU haven’t known something, they’ve admitted to being confused. When my French students don’t know something, they’ll start whispering to their neighbors in hopes someone else will know, and will continue even

when I tell them that I’ll help them if they don’t understand part of what I’m trying to say.

Who’s learned more in your classes this year: you or your students? Why do you think this is the case?

I’d like to believe my students learn a lot. But it’s hard to say who has learned more. A teacher is a performer who has to put on a show that’s very different from anything expected from someone sitting at a desk. I learned a lot of French vocabulary just to maintain control of my class. They would have sensed weakness if I didn’t know how to translate the word “surge” or “clapotter.”

What will you take back with you to the United States when you return, e.g., what have you learned in your year at Nanterre? How have you grown? Do you think you will be a different person, college instructor, or scholar when you come back?

I would like to think I have learned how to handle independent students. The students I’ve had in France have been more likely to disregard commands than American students that I’ve had.

What piece of advice would you give the next graduate student instructor to come to Nanterre from the U.S. or from this department to do what you are doing?

Relax.

Name the best meal you’ve had or the best thing you’ve eaten thus far in France.

I won’t even say the best meal I’ve had, but I did go to Brittany over winter break, and one night I had a meal featuring cod that melted in my mouth and oysters stuffed with pieces of cooked oyster, shredded vegetables, and a creamy sauce.

Name something fun and exciting

you’ve done. Were you alone or with a friend?

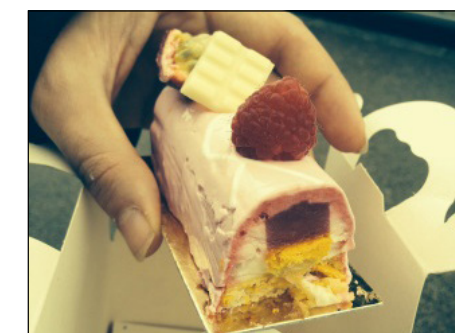
I had chestnut soup at the café near the Second Empire quarters in the Louvre. I was with my mom.

Name a quote that has resonated with you for any period of time while you’ve been in Paris.

The Flower Duet from Délibes’s opera *Lakmé*.
One part goes:
Sous le dôme épais où le blanc jasmin
À la rose s’assemble,
Sur la rive en fleurs, riant au matin,
Viens, descendons ensemble.
Or, in English:
Under the thick dome where the white jasmine
With the roses entwined together
On the river bank covered with flowers laughing in the morning
Let us descend together!
It’s a nice string of words to remember on a bumpy train.

What do you think of Hemingway’s quote in light of your experiences in Paris this year? (“If you are lucky enough to have lived in Paris as a young man, then wherever you go for the rest of your life, it stays with you, for Paris is a moveable feast.”)

I don’t exactly know what Hemingway was talking about. I’m kind of puritanical at the moment, so there’s a whole spectrum of Hemingway-ish lifestyles that involve drinking and smoking and who knows what else that are foreign to me at the moment. I’d like to think that there’s accordion music that will soon envelope me on a café terrace and all will be revealed.



Graduate Student News



IU Bloomington Comparative Literature graduate students and collaborators gather for a picture in the Hoagy Carmichael room after the April 2015 conference.

This year the Student Advisory Board of Comparative Literature organized its second Graduate Student Conference. “Crystal Queer” took place April 1 and 2, 2016, with five panels and a total of sixteen papers by graduate students from five states. Intended as a gesture toward disrupting discursive arrangements of seeing and knowing, the conference sought to trouble normative models of knowledge production and the politics of visual representation, merging with questions of in/visibility, dis/identification, in/coherence, and il/legibility. The keynote speaker was Professor Scott Herring, from the English Department at IU Bloomington, who spoke on “The Special Collections of Samuel M. Steward.” The talk, which referenced collections at the Kinsey Institute and explored the relationship of Steward’s work to that of modernist authors Gertrude Stein and T. S. Eliot, was also particularly interested in the discussion of narratives of aging and how collecting functions in Steward’s writings and life. CMLT faculty served as moderators for the panels and keynote address.

The first Graduate Student Conference took place on April 10 and 11, 2015, with the title “Missed Connections.” The SAB was proud to host Professor Richard Dyer from King’s College as a keynote speaker, as well as 18 presenters from all over the U.S. and Canada, including from our own department.

Morgane Flahault received the Newton P. Stallknecht Memorial Essay Prize in May 2015 from the Department of Comparative Literature for her essay “Warriors and poets: the voice in drag in *Le Roman de Silence* and *The Woman Warrior*.”

Sean Sidky presented a paper at the Northeast Modern Languages Association conference in Hartford, CT, in March. He organized the 4th Annual Jewish Studies Graduate Student Conference here at IU in February. The theme was “Jews Between Public and Private Space.”

Meg Arenberg was awarded an Honorable Mention in the American Comparative Literature Association’s Horst Frenz Prize competition for best graduate student paper for the paper she presented at the March 2015 annual meeting of the ACLA in Seattle. The paper was titled “The Disenchantment of the World: Intertextuality and Disillusionment in Euphrase Kezilahabi’s *Nagona* and *Mzingile*.” Her article “Rethinking Hawaa: Gender in



Abdilatif Abdalla’s *Utenzi wa Maisha ya Adamu na Hawaa through the Lens of John Milton’s Paradise Lost*” was published in the fall 2015 issue of *Research in African Literatures*.

Lily Li presented a paper “Integrating the Self: Gao Xingjian’s *One Man’s Bible*” in the panel “Transnationalism, Autobiography and Nostalgia” for the American Comparative Literature Association annual conference held at Harvard on March 17–20, 2016. She received IU’s 2016 CAHI (College Arts and Humanities Institute) Graduate Conference Travel Award. She also received IU’s 2015 College of Arts and Science Travel Award. She presented a paper “A New Reading of Ha Jin’s *Waiting: Domestic Life as Allegory of Migration*” in the panel “Contemporary Chinese Literature” at WCAAS (Western Conference of the Association for Asian Studies) Annual Conference, titled “Asian Civilizations and Communities: Frontiers—Borders—Landscapes” held at the University of Utah in Salt Lake City on October 8–9, 2015.

Moustapha Ndour attended the 58th African Studies Association (ASA) Annual Meeting on November 19–22, 2015, in San Diego. He chaired a panel on “Migration and Transnational Aesthetics.” He also presented a paper, “Of

Postcolonial Narratives: Politics, Culture, and Identity in Chimamanda N. Adichie’s *Purple Hibiscus* (2003), Jamaica Kincaid’s *A Small Place* (1988) and Cheikh H. Kane’s *Ambiguous Adventure* (1963).” He published a book review, “Andrew Arsan, *Interlopers of Empire: The Lebanese Diaspora in Colonial French West Africa*,” in *Black Diaspora Review*, 5.1 (2015): 60-63. The IU African Studies Program has awarded Moustapha a 2016 African Student Research Award.

Catherine Riccio-Berry published *Afterlives of Romantic Intermediality: The Intersection of Visual, Aural, and Verbal Frontiers* in December 2015 through Lexington Books. *Afterlives* was co-edited and co-translated from German with Dr. Leena Eilittä. In addition to working on her own publications, Catherine has begun to branch out and publish others. After two years of publishing both crafting and educational textbooks, her small publishing company, Caribe House Press, has been formed into an LLC as of April and is now making its foray into the fiction market. Catherine also continues to enjoy helping the Comparative Literature Department with its undergraduate outreach by assisting with the new website design and by developing activities that promote a warm, welcoming community.



Undergraduate Spotlight

Comparative Literature seniors Jordan Riley and Madeleine Steup met to talk about the college experience, food, travel, books, and what they were like as children.

How was studying abroad? What was your favorite moment?

Madeleine: I studied abroad in St. Petersburg my junior year and lived with a Russian family. I loved it: our classes were in an ornate old cathedral complex and the city was so beautiful and fun to explore! There were a surprising number of cute coffee shops and restaurants. My favorite part was probably going to my host family's dacha (lake house/cottage) and *banya*, a type of Russian sauna, that they built themselves. You can just spend a whole afternoon in the *banya*, going back and forth between the sauna room and a little room outside where you can eat oranges and drink water and smear honey on your face.

Jordan: I studied in London in the spring of 2015. I lived in student housing in Kings Cross with other students in my program. It is absolutely one of my favorite experiences. I chose the program because I wanted to be in the city and surrounded by all the international arts, culture, and cuisine that London has to offer. I absolutely fell in love with London, which is not hard to do. My favorite day was probably the one I spent completely absorbed by the British Library, looking at handwritten letters from Queen Elizabeth I and birthday cards that had original lyrics on the back written by John Lennon. I am so glad I chose to be in the heart of the city, but some of my favorite weekends are the ones where I traveled elsewhere in the UK, like Bath, and Edinburgh, because traveling through the countryside was absolutely beautiful. And despite everyone's warnings, the rain wasn't that bad.

What is your senior project?

Madeleine: I'm writing my thesis on a strange Russian novel from the '80s, *School for Fools*, by Sasha Sokolov, focusing on sound, genre, nature, and Ancient Greek references.

Jordan: My thesis focuses on the narratives that female poets create for themselves, and how those narratives get hijacked and imposed upon throughout time, specifically discussing Sappho, Elizabeth Barrett Browning, and Virginia Woolf.



Jordan Riley, in Stratford upon Avon, spring 2015.

What are your favorite extracurricular activities?

Madeleine: I'm part of Bloomington Cooperative Living, so I do a lot of co-op related things, which I love. I also really like yoga, traveling, making collages, and reading Kanye's Twitter.

Jordan: I am currently the opinion editor for the IDS. I have been a columnist for a few years, and this semester I am really enjoying being more involved with the editorial process and getting to know the other editors in the newsroom. Sometimes it feels like every day is a crisis, but it's always exciting.

Why did you choose comp lit?

Madeleine: My French tutor in high school said I would like it, so I decided to major in it. I really liked the interdisciplinary aspect of the program and the focus on languages, but I chose both my Comp Lit and Russian majors pretty much at random.

Jordan: I have always been interested in literature, and pretty much knew before I came to IU that I would major in something like that. The first comparative literature class that I took, I fell in love with. I was really drawn to the comparative arts aspects of the classes.

What's the coolest book you've ever been assigned to read?

Madeleine: I think *Plainwater* by Anne Carson definitely wins, but there are so many close seconds. A lot of Russian things are spectacular by virtue of just being so weird.

Jordan: I had to read *One thousand and One Arabian Nights* for a few different classes, but it was always one of my favorites to discuss.

What's your favorite spot in Bloomington?

Madeleine: My porch, or the Jordan Hall greenhouse, or the concrete in front of the Art Museum if it's sunny out.

Jordan: I love the courtyard outside of Sycamore on a sunny day.

Piece of advice for younger students?

Madeleine: Talk to your professors! It will help you so much. And do things you like. Try to avoid doing things you don't like, unless it's homework. Do your homework.

Jordan: I'm going to say talk to your professors as well! It's something I'm not very good at, but it really helps and Comp Lit professors are nice, helpful, and happy to talk. Also, the Comparative Literature major allows for a lot of exploration outside the major, so my advice is to take advantage of that. Explore your interests! I've found that a lot of classes I wouldn't have expected to enjoy have been some of my favorites.

Favorite food?

Madeleine: Dried cherries, golden raisins, dolma, mochi, and gnocchi.

Jordan: Basically any type of noodle.

Favorite movie?

Madeleine: *Breakfast at Tiffany's*, *The Lives of Others*, *Les Glaneurs et La Glaneuse*.

Jordan: Wait, that's crazy, *Breakfast at Tiffany's* is my favorite movie! That or *The Princess Bride*, because I'm a sucker for something romantic.

What's the next book on your to-read list, place on your to-travel list, thing on your to-do list?

Madeleine: Next book: *Patterson* by William Carlos Williams; next place: Copenhagen; next thing to do ... send a lot of emails.

Jordan: I just got a collection of Jane Austen's letters, so I'd love to take a look at those. I'm headed to the West Coast for the first time for spring break, but this summer I'm hoping to travel around Germany a little with my sister. My next big thing to do is finishing up my thesis.

Favorite children's book?

Madeleine: My favorite book was actually an obscure child's semi-autobiography called *Mink on Weekdays, Ermine on Sundays*. It was about a New York family traveling around, having governesses, and redecorating their house. It was very funny; I read it all the time.

Jordan: Harry Potter books, hands down.

What's your spirit animal?

Madeleine: A deer.

Jordan: A fox.

What's a weird career goal you had as a kid?

Madeleine: For a brief period I was really inspired by the Alps and wanted to just live as a sheep farmer and spin wool. I also did a lot of research on becoming a princess, but it ultimately didn't work out.

Jordan: I used to go back and forth between owning an apple orchard and being on the Supreme Court, neither of which are jobs that I, as an adult, think I would be very good at.



Madeleine in Sparrow Hills, in Moscow, spring 2015

Departmental Student Award Winners 2015-16

Annie Geduld Memorial Prize for an Outstanding CMLT Student:
Morgane Flahault

Gilbert V. Tutungi MA Project Prize (joint winners):
Michael Montesano, for “Preemptive Testimony: Literature as Witness to Genocide in Rwanda,” and Roy Holler, for “Freedom’s Just Another Word: The Paradox of Motherhood in *Beloved* and *Dolly City*”

Newton P. Stallknecht Memorial Essay Prize:
Sean Sidky, for “Un-finishing Austen: Mediation and Interpretation in *The Lizzie Bennet Diaries*”

C. Clifford Flanigan Memorial Colloquium Prize:
Alexandria Frauman for “Taboo-Breakers and the Intimate Monster in *Snorra Edda* and the *Saxon Genesis*”

Albert Wertheim Essay Prize in Comparative Drama (joint winners):
Michael Montesano, for “The Politics of Political Writing,” and Alan Reiser, for “Our (f)Author who art in Heaven — Or, Searching for the Ghost of the Author in Pirandello’s *Six Characters in Search of an Author*”

Associate Instructor Excellence in Teaching Award:
Alexandria Frauman

Outstanding Senior Award: Madeleine Steup
Ilinca Zarifopol Johnston Award: Jordan Riley



MLA announces a new prize in honor of IU Professor Matei Calinescu

The Modern Languages Association has just announced the creation of the Matei Calinescu Prize for a distinguished work of scholarship in twentieth- or twenty-first-century literature and thought. The prize, which consists of a cash award and a certificate, will be presented to the winning author at the MLA’s annual convention in Philadelphia in January 2017.

The endowed prize has been established in honor of Matei Calinescu (1934–2009), Professor of Comparative Literature and West European Studies at Indiana University. Professor Calinescu was the author of *Five Faces of Modernity* (Duke University Press, 1987), translated into eight languages, and *Rereading* (Yale University Press, 1993). He was a Guggenheim fellow (1976–77), a National Endowment for the Humanities fellow (1991), and a Woodrow Wilson Center fellow in Washington, D.C. (1995–96). Beginning in 1999, he devoted himself to the memoir form. A notable result was *Matthew’s Enigma* (Indiana University Press, 2009), a biographical portrait of his son based on copious diary entries kept over many years.

In Romania, Calinescu had published two volumes of poetry, the short novel *Viata si opiniile lui Zaharias Lichter* [The Life and Opinions of Zacharias Lichter (1969), due to appear in English from the New York Review of Books this coming year], and seven volumes of literary criticism and theory. He was an editor on the staff of the literary weekly *Romania literara* and also taught comparative literature at the University of Bucharest. In 1973 he emigrated to the U.S., continuing the remainder of his distinguished academic career at Indiana University.

CMLT Faculty on Team for NEH Summer Institute

We are pleased to announce that in July 2016, the Indiana University Institute for Advanced Study (IAS) will host a National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Institute for college and university teachers, “Arts of Survival: Recasting Lives in African Cities.” Institute faculty include project co-directors, Eileen Julien, Comparative Literature and Director of the IAS, and James Ogude, Research Professor in African Literature, University of Pretoria, South Africa; as well as Grace Musila, Associate Professor, English, Stellenbosch University, South Africa; Akin Adesokan, Associate Professor, Comparative Literature and Media School, IUB; and Oana Panaïté, Associate Professor, French and Italian, IUB. The Institute will explore contemporary urban culture and arts in Accra, Lagos, Nairobi, New Orleans, and Port-au-Prince. These cities share African “roots,” but are distinctive because of the unique “routes” that subsequently shaped them: landscapes and histories; multiple languages; waves of immigrants who brought and continue to bring their labor, culture, and creativity; and the sometimes tragic events, both natural (hurricanes and earthquakes) and manmade (legacies of colonialism, slavery, and political violence), that these cities have undergone. The Institute will examine how the arts engage political and social hierarchies embedded in these cities and often recast marginalized and precarious lives into lives that exceed their constraining structures.

The Newton B Stallknecht Fellowship

As many of you have heard, William Slaymaker (Ph.D., Comparative Literature, IU, 1975), Eugene Eoyang (Ph.D., Comparative Literature, IU, 1971), and I recently joined together to establish a new fund—named in honor of Newton P. Stallknecht—to support graduate students who are completing their dissertations. Over the course of the year, many of you have already contributed to this effort and I thank you heartily! Others may wish to join us as our fund drive continues.

Let me explain a little more about what we have in mind for the new Stallknecht fund. We hope to help those graduate students who have completed all their coursework and are experiencing financial pressures while they are in the midst of the writing process. Simply put, too many are in danger of falling between the cracks, and we anticipate that this new fellowship will fill in exactly where there is little support for graduate research at the present time.

As I mentioned in a previous letter to many of you, Comparative Literature has little to offer worthy dissertation writers who just need an extra month or two of support to get that last chapter written or revised, or pull together a clean copy of that last draft of a dissertation manuscript. The funds to cover a month or two of rent and food can make a huge difference. At times, the College steps in to help, but we cannot always count on this generosity, especially in the current era of budget constraints and reduction in support for the liberal arts.

It would be wonderful to have this option ready to go in the future! It is desperately needed by some deserving person almost every summer, for example.

William, Eugene, and I believe that timing is everything when it comes to helping graduate students succeed. Each of us has made a modest start-up gift to seed the fund. Would you consider joining us if you have not already done so? Helping our many talented graduate students is a very fitting way to honor Newton Stallknecht. As you know, Professor Stallknecht was one of the first great scholars to teach Comparative Literature at Indiana University. The wide-ranging list of dissertations he supervised from 1951 to 1980 documents the extraordinary range of his intellectual interests. Should you wish to see the complete list, I have it. I found it simply astonishing when I reviewed it recently!

Please consider joining us in making a gift. The Newton Stallknecht Fund has a growing balance and an account number at the IU Foundation, should you wish to make a gift (P370012125). In order to keep this funding in place in perpetuity, we need to raise \$25,000 over the next five years. While we have made a tremendous start, we are not there yet. Every dollar is a step toward establishing the fund permanently, and every contribution, small or large, is welcome!

David M. Hertz
Chair, Comparative Literature



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A NEWSLETTER FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS OF THE IU DEPARTMENT OF COMPARATIVE LITERATURE

