

Indiana University Comparative Literature Program

College of Arts and
Sciences Alumni
Association

Encompass

Fall 1998

Vol. 11

ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

Happy 50th to comparative literature at IU!

The academic year 1998–99 marks a half-century of comparative literature at Indiana University. Founded in 1949, the CMLT department has had a rich and successful history. In the words of Professor Emeritus **Henry H.H. Remak**: “The Indiana University Department of Comparative Literature has demonstrated ... a balance of continuity and change, of coherence and individualism that has given it a distinct and enduring place in American and world comparatism.”

The last five decades have seen many significant transformations in the department, and the last two years have been no less eventful. Most obvious to visiting alumni might be the department's move from its long-time home on the fourth floor of Ballantine Hall up to the ninth (and top) floor. Faculty are traveling extensively as visiting professors and scholars, and the department continues to recruit new faculty members. The Department of Comparative Literature has received a Preparing Future Faculty Grant to provide a greater number and variety of teaching opportunities for graduate students. And the Film Studies Program, born in the Department of Comparative Literature in the 1960s, has recently merged with speech communication and cultural studies to form the new Department of Communication and Culture.

One of the more important events an academic program can undergo is a change in chairs. The Department of Comparative Literature recently experienced this change with the retirement of Professor **Harry M. Geduld** after 37 years on the faculty of Indiana University, the last six of which were spent as chair of comparative literature.

Geduld joined the English Department at IU as a teaching assistant in 1959 and

received his PhD in English literature from the University of London in 1961. He became a full professor of English in 1969 and professor of comparative literature and director of film studies in 1974.

In 1963, Geduld introduced the first film studies course at IU and was later responsible for establishing the Film Studies Program. He introduced or taught 16 undergraduate and three graduate courses on film. He is the author of numerous books and articles on film and literature and is especially known for his work on Charlie Chaplain, H.G. Wells, D.W. Griffith, and the film *King Kong*. He also wrote numerous critical film reviews from the 1960s to the 1990s, most often for *The Humanist*.

Geduld served as a visiting professor and lecturer at many universities across the United States throughout his career, and in 1981 he engaged in a lecture tour of Australia and New Zealand, speaking on film. Geduld became chair of the Department of Comparative Literature in July 1990, remaining in this position until his retirement in 1996.

In 1996, the Department of Comparative Literature welcomed in as its new chair Professor **Matei Calinescu**, who has served in the department since 1973.

From 1965 to 1972, Calinescu was an associate professor of comparative literature at the University of Bucharest, Romania. In 1972, he received his PhD in comparative literature from the University of Cluj, Romania, and the next year came to IU as a visiting associate professor in comparative literature and Russian and East European studies. In 1979, he became a full professor of comparative literature and of West European studies.

Calinescu has published numerous books and more than one hundred journal articles in English, French, and Ro-

manian. He is especially known for his work on modernism, postmodernism, theories of reading and rereading, and East European literature and culture. His book, *Five Faces of Modernity: Modernism, Avant-Garde, Decadence, Kitsch, Postmodernism* (Duke University Press,

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Department receives Preparing Future Faculty Grant

In the spring of 1997, the Department of Comparative Literature became the ninth department on campus to receive funding from the Graduate School under a grant titled “Preparing Future Faculty.” Our application, written by Professors **David Hertz**, **Gilbert Chaitin**, and **Matei Calinescu**, proposed a program that would enhance the preparation of our graduate students for professional careers as teachers and scholars. The funding from the Graduate School provides \$20,000 per year for three years, beginning in 1997–98 and ending in 1999–2000. With Associate Professor **Rosemarie McGerr** serving as faculty coordinator, the departmental PFF program began its work last summer.

The department's PFF program has five major components: 1) development of C507, a seminar on

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Department receives PFF grant

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pedagogical issues; 2) connection with other academic institutions in the state of Indiana in order to provide our graduate students with teaching opportunities in academic settings outside of the Bloomington campus; 3) establishment of funded internships for students who do not have appointments as associate instructors; 4) sponsorship of workshops and colloquia to help students prepare for job applications, interviews, and success at balancing teaching, scholarship, and service; and 5) provision of new library and technological resources to help students in their teaching and professional development.

In the program's first year, the department received approval for CMLT C507, Teaching Methods in Comparative Literature, which will be required for students receiving appointments as associate instructors teaching in CMLT beginning in 1998-99. This new seminar complements C508 and C509, internships that have focused on training

graduate students to teach a specific undergraduate course. C507 uses readings, observation reports, discussion, and writing projects to examine the presuppositions, methods, and goals of teaching literature in a comparative mode at the college level. The course includes a unit on developing teaching portfolios, as well as units that introduce students to new instructional technologies. McGerr is teaching C507 for the first time in fall 1998.

This past year, the PFF program funded three levels of one-semester teaching internships that add to the teaching opportunities offered by the department's associate instructor appointments. Three students — Naomi Uechi, Hanwei Tan, and Michael Dalton — received grants of \$500 each for introductory internships in CMLT C509 (Teaching Internship in CMLT) and worked with a faculty member teaching a CMLT course. One student — **Cimberli Kearns** — with extensive experience as an associate instructor, was appointed as an internal advanced intern and received a grant of \$2,000 to teach an undergraduate CMLT course not usually assigned to an associate instructor. Six students with prior teaching experience — **Christine Bolus-Reichert, Christy Cousino, Balazs Dibus, Mary O'Shea, Joyce Owens, and Susan Udry** — received appointments as external advanced interns, with a stipend of \$4,000 each, to teach an undergraduate course at one of this year's host institutions: University of Indianapolis, Indiana State University at Terre Haute, Indiana University-Purdue University at Columbus, and Franklin College.

In February 1998, McGerr, Chaitin, and several graduate students in CMLT participated in a two-day conference sponsored by the Graduate School. On the first day, the departmental PFF coordinators met with representatives from the national PFF program and from other universities and colleges who had received PFF grants in the past. They focused on the issue of integrating aspects of PFF into the departments and the Graduate School when IU's three-year grant runs out. The second day of the conference was focused on graduate student concerns about the academic job market, options for jobs outside of academia, the mentoring process, and development of successful teaching skills. The participants came away from the conference with ideas for workshops and colloquia to be held in fall 1998.

Finally, through the PFF program, the department has been able to purchase ad-

ditional professional journals, books on pedagogy, and technological resources that will assist graduate students to teach their courses more effectively and to compete more successfully in the job market.

Graduate students and faculty agree that the new PFF course, internships, workshops, and resources will contribute significantly to the department's graduate program and will better prepare our PhD students for their search for employment by providing them with teaching experience in diverse academic institutions and by opening opportunities to make connections with faculty members and students outside of the IU Bloomington campus.

Happy 50th

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1987), an expanded version of his earlier work, *Faces of Modernity* (Indiana University Press, 1977), has been translated into Spanish, Japanese, Serbo-Croatian, Romanian, Italian, and Chinese. During his tenure at IU he has also served as a visiting professor and scholar at universities and research centers in the United States and Canada, including Yale University (1998) and the Wilson Center for International Scholars in Washington, D.C. (1994-95). He is currently continuing his research on rereading, modernism and postmodernism, and intellectuals and nationalism in Eastern Europe, particularly Romania.

Calinescu's tasks as the current chair of the Department of Comparative Literature have thus far included expanding the comparative literature curriculum to meet the changing needs and interests of undergraduate students, pursuing new means to prepare graduate students for academic careers, and, as with all comparative literature chairs, helping to direct the department, its faculty, and students in addressing the ever-changing roles of comparative literature as a discipline in academia.

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ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

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Professor Clüver retires after 34 years in CMLT

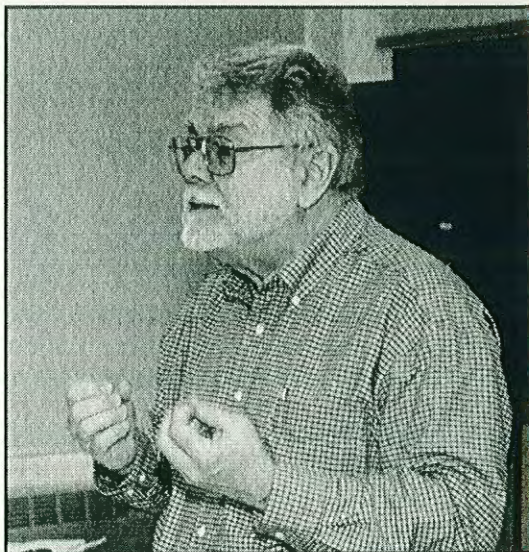
Retiring Professor Claus Clüver was recognized at the annual comparative literature department reception for his many years of teaching and service in comparative literature at IU. The speakers celebrating Clüver included professors Gilbert Chaitin, Henry Remak, Breon Mitchell, and Ilinca Zarifopol-Johnston, graduate student Mary Dezember, and undergraduate Elizabeth Clark. The following excerpts from speeches by Chaitin, Zarifopol-Johnston, and Mary Dezember offer an overview of Clüver's career from three different perspectives.

Chaitin began by talking about how Claus Clüver came to Indiana University.

"Some of you may recall when Claus first came to IU as a graduate student and teaching assistant in 1957; I don't! But I discovered that fact when perusing his vita. After a stint back in Hamburg, he returned to IU in 1964 and has been with us ever since. As I was pondering what to say about Claus today, reviewing his many accomplishments and recalling my many experiences with him as a colleague, what struck me most was the extraordinary range of his activities and expertise. As I followed this trail of thought, I came to the realization that Claus has made a major contribution to every branch of comparative literature as we define it today in our department, with the single exception of the study of literatures and cultures outside the European tradition. He has done this through his publications, his teaching at IU and at other universities, the many lectures he has delivered, and the conferences which he has organized or in which he has participated, both here and abroad. . . . He has taught, lectured, and published on topics from the many countries with whose languages he is conversant, including German, English and American, Portuguese and Brazilian, and French.

"[In the 1980s] he undertook a major revision of C501, bringing our basic course for graduate students up to date in the field of theory and criticism. Revamping this course was only one of Claus's many and continuing efforts to

improve and publicize the teaching of critical methodologies in comparative studies, efforts which have led him to publish widely on topics of pedagogy and theory, including performance theory, the



Yara Clüver

Professor Claus Clüver teaching in 1997

concept of national literatures, and periodization.

"He has been invited as a visiting professor primarily in interarts studies to the University of Sao Paulo, New York University, the University of Hamburg, and the University of Lisbon, among others. And it is in this capacity that he has held important positions in the American Comparative Literature Association, the Modern Language Association, the International Association of Word and Image Studies, and the newly-founded Nordic Association of Interarts Studies.

"From the start, in 1964, Claus served as instructor of our own pioneering course on interarts studies, C255, and later became its principal organizer and supervisor of its graduate assistants, and has compiled two textbooks for it. Another opportunity for contact between myself and Claus in this field arose in my capacity as editor of the *Yearbook of Comparative and General Literature*, for which he prepares, with his daughter, Yara, the not-always-annual but extremely valuable 'Bibliography on the Relations of Literature and the Other Arts.' Claus's own publications and lectures in this field are numerous and varied, but perhaps his most highly visible specialty is concrete poetry, of which he was an early and vig-

orous proponent. The study of 'verbicovisual signs' has given him special insight into the problem of translation, both from one medium to another and from one language to another."

Zarifopol-Johnston spoke about meeting Clüver when she came to IU as a student.

"I will start with my personal tribute to [Claus Clüver] as a former student. Many years ago, upon entering the department, I took, like all incoming students, C501. At the time it was not as theoretical a course as it is now. It was oriented more towards the traditional fields of comparative literature, influence studies, genre and themes, translation, and especially the teaching of bibliographical work: how to write a scholarly article in the MLA format, how to put together a bibliography. Claus was a strict taskmaster. I say this with gratitude, not with reproach. I remember dreading the red ink markings on my papers and bibliographies — and there were many! It looked like I would never get the periods, commas, and semicolons right! It made me feel so humble, it cut me back

"But, if it hadn't been for Claus in those formative years, I probably would not have developed what I call 'a scholar's conscience.'"

— Ilinca Zarifopol-Johnston

to size. But, if it hadn't been for Claus in those formative years, I probably would not have developed what I call "a scholar's conscience" — the sense of duty towards my writing and research as well as my readers, the need to be elegant, simple, and accurate down to the last little comma. So, thank you, Claus, from me and in the name of the generations of graduate students you have formed.

"I would like to add one more thing
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Faculty notes

Professor **Gilbert Chaitin** was acting chair of the Department of Comparative Literature in the spring of 1998 while Professor **Matei Calinescu** was on sabbatical leave. Chaitin's book *Rhetoric and Culture in Lacan* has been published by Cambridge University Press. He also served as the department's director of Graduate Studies in 1996-97 and was a visiting professor at the University of Lisbon as part of the IU-Lisbon Exchange in 1997.

Visiting Assistant Professor **Mikita Brottman** is the newest comparative literature department faculty member. This fall she is teaching literature and film and supervising C145/C146.

Brottman received her PhD from St. Hugh's College, Oxford, in English language and literature. Her main areas of research interest are film and literature. She is the author of three books: *Offensive Films* (1997), *Meat is Murder* (1998), and *Hollywood Hex* (forthcoming, 1999).

Professor **Eugene Eoyang** continues as visiting chair of the English department at Lingnan College in Hong Kong.

Professor **Edward Friedman** of the Department of Spanish and Portuguese has taken over editorial responsibilities of the *Yearbook of Comparative and General Literature*.

In addition to publishing numerous essays, he edited the double issue (Nos. 10-11) of the *Indiana Journal of Hispanic Literatures* and co-edited and contributed an essay to *A Society on Stage: Essays in Spanish Golden Age Drama* (University Press of the South). Friedman was also recipient of a National Humanities Center Fellowship for 1998-99.

Professor **David M. Hertz's** latest book of architectural history, *Frank Lloyd Wright in Word and Form* (1995), was reissued as a paperback in 1997. He is currently at work on a study of the Italian poet Eugenio Montale and on a book that has grown out of his popular course, C251, *Lyrics and Popular Song*, titled *Words, Music, and the Popular Song*.

Professor **Ingeborg Hoesterey** has been invited as a research fellow to the Institute for Cultural Studies in Essen, Germany, for the fall of 1998. Her recently completed book, *Pastiche: Cultural Memory in Art, Film, Literature*, is currently under consideration. She is also

co-editing (with graduate student **Julian Stringer**) a volume of essays titled *Postmodern Film*.

Professor **Douglas Hofstadter's** new book, *Le Ton beau de Marot: In Praise of the Music of Language*, about poetry translation and translation in general, was published by Basic Books in 1997. In 1999, Basic Books will publish his verse translations (from Russian) of Alexander Pushkin's novel in verse *Eugene Onegin*.

Professor **Sumie Jones** was promoted to full professor in 1997. She is currently a research fellow at the International Center for Japanese Studies in Kyoto, Japan, and has accepted a Japan Foundation Professional Research Fellowship for the 1998-99 academic year.

Professor **Eileen Julien** won a Guggenheim Award for 1998-99 and will be on leave next year to conduct her research on *Modernity as Theme and Practice in African Literature*.

Under the auspices of a fellowship from the National Endowment for the Humanities, Professor **Oscar Kenshur**

spent the 1997-98 academic year working on a book-length study of the intellectual and ideological contexts of early-modern aesthetics. His two recent essays on social theories of science and on methodology in science and the humanities appeared in *The Flight from Science and Reason*, a volume published by the New York Academy of Sciences and reprinted last year by the Johns Hopkins University Press. Next spring, Kenshur will represent the comparative literature department as our exchange professor at the University of Lisbon.

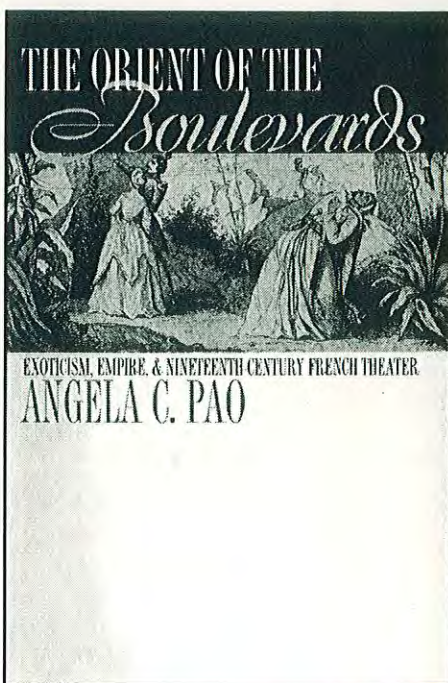
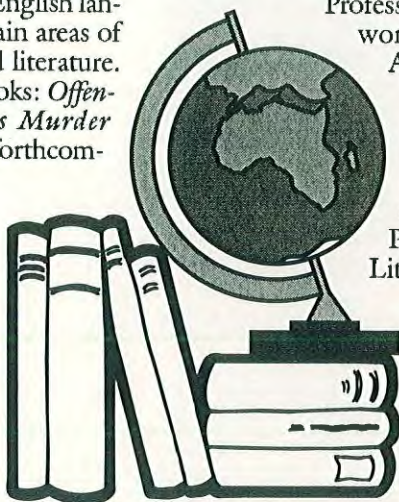
Professor **Giancarlo Maiorino's** lecture, "*Kairos: the Renaissance Reconstruction of the Best of All Possible Times*," given at the University of Groningen, the Netherlands, in November 1997 has been accepted for publication in a volume edited by Helen Wilcox and sponsored by the University of Groningen. Maiorino has also finished a book titled *Econopoetics, Popular Culture, Lazarillo de Tormes, and the Rise of the*

Novel, which is under consideration by the University of Massachusetts Press.

Professor **Herbert Marks's** essay "Writing as Calling," on the relations of text to voice, appeared in *New Literary History*. He also published "The Gospel According to Buber and Rosenzweig" in *Parcours Judaïques* (Paris) and "Infinite Stillness," translations of medieval song texts for the new CD *Musica Graciosa* by the Hamburger Blockfloeten-Ensemble. His paper on commentary as a genre was the closing address at a conference in Hamburg, Germany, devoted to the scholarship of Benno Jacob. As the recipient of a Summer Faculty Fellowship in 1998, Marks worked on an edition of the Bible with critical commentary to be published by W.W. Norton.

Professor **Rosemarie McGerr** was promoted to associate professor with tenure in 1997. Her book, *Chaucer's Open Books: Resistance to Closure in Medieval Discourse*, was published by the University Press of Florida. She is also serving as the comparative literature department's director of graduate studies in spring and fall 1998.

New Assistant Professor **Angela Pao's** book, *The Orient of the Boulevards: Exoticism, Empire, and Nineteenth-Century French Theatre*, was published by the University of Pennsylvania Press. It has been nominated for the MLA Aldo and Jeanne Scaglione Prize for Best Book in French Studies.



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Graduate notes

CLMT PhDs earn teaching positions

Norma Bouchard, PhD'96, received a tenure track position at the University of North Carolina; **Keith Cartwright**, PhD'97, a tenure track position at College of the Bahamas; **Jinhee Kim**, PhD'97, a tenure track position at the University of Southern California; **Christian Moraru**, PhD'98, a tenure track position at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro; and **Lucia Regina De Sa**, PhD'97, a tenure track position at Stanford.

Students receiving PhDs in the Department of Comparative Literature from 1996 to 1998 include Norma Bouchard (1996), Kenneth Klucznik (1996), Keith Cartwright (1997), Lucia Regina De Sa (1997), Lewis Dibble (1997), Malinee Kaewater (1997), Jinhee Kim (1997), Elliott Rabin (1997), Ann Willison Lemke

(1998), Christian Moraru (1998), and Yaohna Shi (1998).

Students receiving master's degrees in comparative literature from 1996 to 1998 include: Jie-Yin Feng (1996), Cynthia Isreal (1996), Julia Paulk (1996), Angela Bryant (1997), Mary Dezember (1997), Aimee Hall (1997), Chia-Yin Huang (1997), Leena Kaosaar (1997), Cimperli Carpenter Kearns (1997), Aaron Kleist (1997), Chien-Tai Liu (1997), James Lynch (1997), Christopher Robinson (1997), Julian Stringer (1997), Jessica Penfield Travis (1997), Nina VanderVoort (1997), Sharon Verba (1997), Tekin Bingol (1998), Kevin Bishop (1998), Michael Dalton (1998), Balzus Dibus (1998), Robert Kinsman (1998), Darcy McKinnon (1998), Tobias Nagl (1998), Julian Stringer (1998), Adriana Varga (1998), and Kevin West (1998).

CMLT Spring 1998 Reception

The annual Comparative Literature Department reception was held the afternoon of Friday, April 10, 1998, at the IU Memorial Union University Club.

Gilbert Chaitin, acting chair for the spring semester of 1998 during **Matei Calinescu's** sabbatical leave, welcomed the faculty and students in attendance and made introductions. Thanks were given to **Mariam Ehteshami**, **Connie Sue May**, **Jacek Daleki**, and **Angela Bratton** for their invaluable administrative support. Undergraduate and graduate awards were presented by professors Chaitin, **Ilinca Zarifopol-Johnston**, and **Rosemary McGerr**. Other departmental news was announced by Chaitin, and the reception then focused its attention on extending a farewell to retiring faculty member Professor **Claus Clüver**.

Ilinca Zarifopol-Johnston presented awards to this year's undergraduate recipients. The Ann Geduld Award for Film and Comparative Arts was given to **Ryan Haley**, and the Outstanding Senior Award was given to **Elizabeth Skomp**.

Graduate awards were then presented by Gilbert Chaitin. **Stephanie DeBoer** received the Newton P. Stallknecht Award for Best Essay ("Festival and Form in Ichikawa's Yukinojo Henge"), in memory of Professor **Stallknecht**, who taught at IU from 1949 to 1977. **Chien-Tai Liu** received the Gilbert V. Tutungi Award for Best Master's Project ("The Crying Cicada and Twanging Zithr: In search of the Yen-Wai-chih-I of Li Shang-Yin's Poetry"), in honor of the late Gilbert Tutungi, who received his PhD in comparative literature at IU. Teaching Excellence Recognition Awards were given to associate instructors **Mary Dezember** and **David Kaplin**. Graduate Recognition Awards for service to the department were given to **Joe O'Neil** and **Mario Ritter**. The College of Arts and Sciences Outstanding Teaching/Scholarship Awards went to **Aimee Hall** and **Julian Stringer**.

Faculty notes

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Pao received her PhD in comparative literature from the University of California at Berkeley. Her fields of interest include theatre and performance theory, interculturalism and theatre, 19th-century French popular culture, cross-cultural representations, and literatures of emergent cultures. Aside from her new book, her recent publications include articles on race and gender in 20th-century American theatre. Pao is serving as the Comparative Literature Department's director of Undergraduate Studies for the 1998-99 academic year.

In April 1998, the **Henry H.H. Remak Professorship** at Indiana University was established. This endowed chair will rotate every three years between Germanic studies, comparative literature, and West European studies.

Professor **Anya P. Royce** is one of 15 international scholars invited to present a paper at the three-day conference, *Popular Culture: America and the World*, in October 1998 in Washington, D.C., to celebrate the opening of the new Woodrow Wilson Center. Royce's presentation is titled "Pavlova at the Hippodrome, Baryshnikov on Broadway: The Russian Ballet and American Popular Culture." The paper will be published in an edited volume.

Professor **Ilinca Zarifopol-Johnston** was promoted to associate professor with tenure in 1997. She has also served as the department's director of Undergraduate Studies for the past two years. Teaching Excellence Recognition Awards were given to Professors Ilinca Zarifopol-Johnston, **Rosemarie McGerr**, and Visiting Lecturer **Terry Dibble**.

Professor **Yingjin Zhang** was promoted to the rank of associate professor with tenure in East Asian languages and cultures.

The new adjunct professors are **Eric McPhail**, **William Rasch**, **Suzanne Stetkevych**, **Helen Sward**, and **Marc Weiner**.

Professor **Mario Jorge Torres** of the University of Lisbon is a visiting professor in comparative literature for fall 1998 as part of the IU-Lisbon Exchange program, following Professor **Joao Duarte**, who was visiting professor in fall 1997 as part of the same program.

Visiting scholars in 1996-97 included Professor **Ren-Jing Yang** from Xianmen University in the People's Republic of China, Professor **Jin-Hee Park** from the University of Seoul in South Korea, and Professor **Clement Ndulute**, IU alumnus, from the University of Dar-es-Salam in Tanzania.

Graduate and undergraduate students reach beyond the department to reap honors and awards

Many graduate and undergraduate students have recently received prestigious awards, grants, and scholarships from other campus departments as well as from nonuniversity organizations.

Undergraduates receiving awards from outside the department include **Erika Ashmore**, who received an IU Foundation Working Student Scholarship, as well as the Palmer Brandon Prize; **Eric Cox** and **Kurt Hassler**, who received Honors Division Senior Achievement Awards; **Amy Eleanor Parker**, who received a Hall Award for Outstanding Artist in Fiction from the English department; **Joon Park**, who received a Parker Powell Scholarship awarded by the president of the Asian American Association and was a finalist for a Fullbright Fellowship; and **Elizabeth Skomp**, who was granted a

Marshall Scholarship and graduated Phi Beta Kappa.

Graduate students receiving outside awards include **Cathleen Cameron**, who won an American-Scandinavian Foundation Fellowship for dissertation research in Sweden, May 1998 to October 1999; **Lynne Dahmen**, a Georgetown University Tangier Summer Program Scholarship; **Stephanie DeBoer**, a FLAS Fellowship (East Asian Languages), 1998–99; **Kimberly Kearns**, a two-week study tour at Kansai Japanese Language Center through the Japan Foundation; **Neepta Majumdar**, a College of Arts and Sciences Doctoral Grant-in-Aid of Research, 1997–98; **Christian Moraru**, a College of Arts and Sciences Spring Se-

mester Research Fellowship; **Gwen Stickney**, who studied at the University of Seville through the IU Exchange Program and had a review of *Don Quixote* published in the Spanish journal *Cervantes*; **Hanwei Tan**, a Starr Fellowship from the People's Republic of China; **Natasha Vaubel**, a Fullbright Fellowship to South Africa, 1998; and **Kevin West**, who was chosen to represent the department as a visiting instructor at the University of Paris X through the IU–Nanterre Exchange Program.

The *Yearbook of Comparative and General Literature*, published annually under the auspices of the Department of Comparative Literature, now has a web site at www.indiana.edu/~ycgl/.

CMLT students earn awards in department

Students who received honors awarded by the Comparative Literature Program in 1997 include: **Christopher Robinson**, who received the Gilbert V. Tutungi Award for Best Master's Project ("Troubling Theories: On the Critical Romances of Kathy Acker's *Don Quixote* and *Empires of the Senseless*"); **Jeffrey William Johnson**, the Clifford C. Flanigan Memorial Colloquium Award; **Aimee Hall** and **Aaron Kleist**, the A.I. Award for Distinguished Teaching; **Eric Cox**, the Anne Geduld Memorial Prize for Interdisciplinary Study of the Arts; **Amy Parker**, the Mary F. Campbell Award; **James Stevens**, the Outstanding Senior Award; **Kimberly Kearns**, the Comparative Literature Recognition Award; and **Hanadi Al-Samman** and **Christian Moraru**, College of Arts and Sciences Outstanding Teacher/Scholar Fellowships.

Clüver retires

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by way of conclusion: During my tenure as director of Undergraduate Studies, I have learned not only how difficult and time consuming my task is, but also how many people take such jobs for granted and dismiss them as mere service. I often thought of Claus and those many years of his career devoted to it quietly, modestly, selflessly: he could have done other things that would have boosted his own ego but he did it for us, for our students. He literally placed himself and his career in our service, and we shall always be grateful to him for this generous intellectual and institutional act. Thank you, Claus, we shall miss you."

Graduate student Mary Dezember spoke from a current student's point of view:

"It is an honor for me to be here today as a representative for the many graduate students who have benefitted from Professor Clüver's knowledge and tutelage in his 34 years in the comparative literature department at Indiana University.

"Professor Clüver, through his research and publications, has expanded the area of interarts, for which, as a graduate student doing my own research [in this field], I am grateful. As one example, Professor Clüver's research broadens the traditional definition of ekphrasis to in-

clude architecture as well as 'non-visual texts such as dances and musical compositions' (from Claus Clüver, 'Ekphrasis Reconsidered' in *Interart Poetics: Essays on the Interrelations of the Arts and Media*, Rodopi 1997, p. 26). For those with a scholarly emphasis on poetry, such as myself, this definition offers a great boon to the study of ekphrasis and its ever-emerging canon, for poets love to render many forms of art into their own art form, and scholars love to analyze them. And this is merely one significant example taken from just one of his research-oriented writings, which include three books, 15 chapters in books, one catalogue, 11 articles, and four translations, as well as numerous teaching-oriented publications, editorial services, and service-oriented publications to his credit.

"Again, I am only one graduate representative out of the possible hundreds who have studied with or worked with Professor Clüver. Speaking for them all, I want to say: we are thankful for the tenure of Professor Claus Clüver at Indiana University."

Clüver was presented with a *Festschrift*, a collection of articles by his colleagues and students, published in his honor. In addition, Chaitin, on behalf of the department, presented him with the gift of a sound card and speakers for his computer, so that he might "henceforth merge word and music in the postmodern, high-tech mode."

Alumni notebook

Alumni news

Mark Spilka, MA'53, PhD'56, published the book *Eight Lessons in Love: A Domestic Violence Reader*.

Mark R. Axelrod, BA'69, MA'77, has been conducting screenwriting workshops at such schools as the Danish Film School, Copenhagen; the International School of Film and Television, Havana; the University of Art and Design, Helsinki; and the Netherlands Film and Television Academy, Amsterdam.

Yosefa Loshitzki, PhD'87, edited the book *Spielberg's Holocaust: Critical Perspectives on Schindler's List*.

Elizabeth S. Staton, BA'91, is an administrative assistant for COR Therapeutics in San Francisco.

Va-Megn Thoj, BA'93, is a filmmaker for the Manhattan Neighborhood Network in New York.

We want to hear from you!

Our alumni are an essential link to the "real world." We greatly value hearing news of your progress as a CMLT graduate and learning how your experience with our program has impacted your career. Let us know which aspects of the program have proven most supportive of your goals, and which you might recommend altering to make it even more useful to those who follow you.



Here is a selection from a letter sent to us by one of our recent PhD graduates, Christian Moraru:

"I am proud to say that a comparative literature doctorate from Indiana continues to be, as it has been for many years now, a very prestigious and widely respected academic title. I have had plenty of opportunities to test its value, on the job market and elsewhere...In fact, I believe I owe, to a considerable extent, my tenure-track assistant professor appointment with the English Department of University of North Carolina, Greensboro, to my background as a comparatist and to the comparative literature component of my PhD...However keen the competition, the training and overall advising, along with the teaching experience graduate students accumulate in the department, put them in a fairly privileged position."

Alumni donations support the department's mission

Alumni donations to the Comparative Literature Program have made it possible for us to offer support to graduate students attending and presenting papers at conferences. As you know from experience, financial support to graduate students in these endeavors is essential to their development, both academic and professional. We are pleased to say that in the 1997-98 academic year, CMLT was able to award 18 Compar-

ative Literature Travel Grants. With your continued support, we will send as many or more students to conferences next year and in the future. If you would like to make a donation to the **Comparative Literature Development Fund** to help support the mission of the department through its students, please contact Mariam Ehteshami at the Department of Comparative Literature, Ballantine Hall 914, Indiana University,

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Comparative Literature Program alumni and other interested parties are invited to contact the Department of Comparative Literature for information about upcoming activities and events. Extensive information about the department can also be found at the IU Comparative Literature Program Web site at www.indiana.edu/~complit/.

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