



DEPARTMENT OF FRENCH AND ROMANCE PHILOLOGY

ANNUAL NEWSLETTER

Columbia University in the City of New York — December 2008

Editor: Philip Watts; Design: Benita Dace

FRENCH AND FRANCOPHONE STUDIES: A NOTE FROM THE NEW CHAIR

Having just completed my first year as chair, I am delighted to report that French Studies at Columbia are thriving. Over the last five years the Department has undergone many changes. New faculty have arrived, bringing with them new fields of knowledge and new approaches. In recent years, the Department has moved toward more historical and contextual readings, with an emphasis on the relation between literature and fields such as philosophy, anthropology, law and history. Our focus on French literature, literary history and theory has been complemented by renewed attention to global literatures and cultures. It is an exciting

time to be in the field, and in spite of what we occasionally hear in the press, scholarly interest in things French and Francophone continues unabated. Next year we will celebrate 100 years of the Department's flagship publication *Romanic Review*, and this will give us a chance to continue to reflect on the ways we can bring together the past and the future of our scholarly disciplines. The number of French majors at Columbia continues to rise. We now have two tracks for undergraduates—the French major and the French and Francophone studies major—and students in ever-growing numbers. We are delighted that the number of Columbia students



The Maison Française of Columbia University

studying abroad is also on the upswing. More students than ever are going to Reid Hall in Paris and many undergraduates are also taking advantage of Columbia's developing ties with the Université Cheik Anta Diop in Dakar, Senegal.

ETIENNE BALIBAR IS VISITING PROFESSOR IN FRENCH AND COMPARATIVE LITERATURE



In Fall 2008, Etienne Balibar returned to Columbia to teach a graduate course titled "Aporia of the Community: The French Debate," a study of the question of community in the works of Maurice Blanchot, Jean-Luc Nancy, Jean-François Lyotard and Jacques Derrida. The course was taught through the Institute for Comparative Literature and Society and was a continuation of courses Balibar previously taught at Columbia on Hegel and on Freud. Etienne Balibar, Professor Emeritus at the Université de Paris, Nanterre and Distinguished Professor in the Humanities at the University of California, Irvine, is one of Europe's leading political philosophers. His numerous books

include *Spinoza and Politics* (1998), *Les frontières de la démocratie* (1999), *Politics and the Other Scene* (2002), *We, the People of Europe?* (2003), *Masses, Classes, Ideas* (2004), and with Immanuel Wallerstein, *Race, Nation, Class: Ambiguous Identities* (1992). Balibar's work spans the history of moral and political philosophy in Europe and has had a huge impact on contemporary thought. An authority on Spinoza, Marx and Althusser, Balibar is also responsible for important on-going reassessments in thinking about the nation, borders, immigration, global community and the possibilities of a politics of emancipation.

I am also immensely impressed by the work of our graduate students here. Students are researching and writing on a range of topics from the pleasure of reading in the 18th century to conspiracy theories in the 1930s, from the Palestinian question in North African literature to early modern representations of the non-European world. It has been a great pleasure for me to discover this scholarship. We also had a very successful graduate

(Continued on next page)

recruitment for the class entering Fall 2008. We received nearly 70 applications for 7 graduate student fellowships. The students who came to our department to pursue their doctorate represent the very best young scholars from the strongest universities in the United States and Europe. I'm delighted to welcome them to Columbia.

The Department is well-positioned to take advantage of the ongoing scholarly interest in things French. I want to take this opportunity to welcome Emilie Littlehales who is now Associate in language in our department and Program Coordinator at the Maison Française. Thanks to Emilie and to Director Nicole Rudolph, the Maison Française along with the Center for French and Francophone Studies hosted an impressive array of conferences and events this year, beginning with the "Literary History of Literature" conference organized by Antoine Compagnon and Vincent Debaene, and, in February, the French Graduate Student Association's conference on "L'Ennemi: Difference and Antagonism in Literature." Speakers who visited the Maison included: Pascale Casanova (CNRS, Paris) who discussed the global literary space, Marnia Lazreg (Hunter College and CUNY) who presented her new book *Torture and the Twilight of Empire*, Yves Citton (Grenoble) who delivered a lecture on teaching literature in the age of cognitive capitalism, Pierre Menger (CNRS, Paris) who gave a talk on artistic labor markets, Todd Shepherd (Temple) who lectured on French colonialism, Jean-Luc Nancy who spoke on "The Being-With of Being-There," Kristin Ross (NYU) who discussed her most recent book *May 68 and its Afterlives*, Marc

Fumaroli (Columbia, Collège de France and Académie française) who presented the "rocaille" movement in 18th century French art, Azouz Begag who spoke on immigration and integration in France, and former French Minister of Foreign Affairs, Hervé de Charette who gave a talk on Nicolas Sarkozy's foreign policy. This array of scholars, public figures and topics speaks well to the wide range of scholarly work that our faculty and students are undertaking here.

The Department had the good fortune to host three distinguished visiting professors. Gilles Philippe, Professor of French Linguistics at the Université Stendhal in Grenoble returned to Columbia to teach a graduate course in stylistics in spring 2008. Gilles Philippe is the author of many books and articles, including *Flaubert savait-il écrire?* (2004). He has also published on questions of stylistic purity in 20th century French literature, and is currently editing the Pléiade edition of Marguerite Duras' collected works. The Department was also delighted to welcome Emmanuel Naya, Université Lumière Lyon 2, who taught the graduate course on Renaissance literature in Fall 2008. And, for the third year in a row, Etienne Balibar was Visiting Professor at Columbia in conjunction with the Institute for Comparative Literature and Society. Professor Balibar taught a course on the "Aporia of the Community" in modern French thought. We look forward to his visit to campus again next year.

Under the steady hand of Pascale Hubert-Leibler, the language program is flourishing and was enhanced by several recent appointments. Marie-Hélène Koffi-Tessio (PhD, Princeton) and Anjali

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Balashingham (PhD Columbia, stepped aside as chair in JD Fordham) were hired as January 2008 for a well-deserved research sabbatical, but his office is right next door to mine, and I am extremely grateful that he took the time to answer my all too frequent questions as I became (re)acquainted with the Department. The faculty, staff and students taken over as chair of the Department and I thank all my colleagues for their warm welcome. I am especially thankful to Pierre Force. Pierre was chair of the Department for ten years, and in addition to his teaching and distinguished scholarship, he has been instrumental in rebuilding the Department. Pierre

To end on a personal note, I'm delighted to have taken over as chair of the Department and I thank all my colleagues for their warm welcome. I am especially thankful to Pierre Force. Pierre was chair of the Department for ten years, and in addition to his teaching and distinguished scholarship, he has been instrumental in rebuilding the Department. Pierre

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—Philip Watts
Department Chair

ALUMNA BEVERLEY TIMINS CREATES FUND FOR GRADUATE STUDENT ACTIVITIES

The Department is delighted to announce the creation of the The Beverley M. Timins MA '61 French Literature Endowment Fund. The endowed fund was created through a generous gift from Beverley Timins in memory of her parents Dr. and Mrs. Allan H. Timins. Ms. Timins is a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Douglass College where she majored in French. She was awarded a Woodrow Wilson Fellowship to pursue graduate studies at Columbia where she earned a Master of Arts in French Literature, writing her Master's essay under the aegis of Professor Michael Riffaterre. For many years, she taught French language, literature, and culture at a high school in suburban New Jersey where her goal as an educator was to instill in her students her abiding passion for France, the French language and culture as well as "le monde francophone". This generous gift is designated to support research, travel and various graduate student activities in the Department of French. Funds for graduate student travel will be available starting June 2009. Our sincerest thanks to our generous and gracious benefactor.

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES

Last year I returned to the post of Director of Undergraduate Studies for the French and French & Francophone Studies majors. I would like to thank my colleague Joanna Stalnak for her capable stewardship of our major programs during my leave of absence. I would also like to express my gratitude to our new department chair, Philip Watts, and to the Director of the French Language Program, Pascale Hubert-Leibler, for their strong and dynamic support for our undergraduate programs.

In May 2008, 8 Seniors graduated with a major in French, 2 with a concentration in French, 4 with an interdisciplinary major in French and Francophone Studies, and 1 with an FFS concentration. We warmly congratulate all these new Columbia French graduates! I would like to encourage former majors to stay in touch, and to let us know of new career developments and educational pursuits. Several of last year's graduating seniors opted to write a senior essay. These independent research projects were devoted to a wide range of literary, historical, and social topics. The College and the School of General Studies recognized the high level of achievement of our essay-writing seniors by conferring

departmental honors—a prestigious award that recognizes academic performance, completion of a strong senior essay, and students' ethics and leadership role—on three of our seniors. We warmly congratulate Ashley Banks, Michele Klapper, and Naomi Salomon, the three recipients of departmental honors. Ashley wrote her senior essay on the *flâneur* in Baudelaire's *Spleen de Paris*, Michele wrote on Brancusi and Chagall, and Naomi wrote on novels of the First World War. Our annual in-house French Department prizes were distributed as follows: the Prize for Promise in French Studies was split between Felix Vo and Gerrard Carter, and the Senior French Prize was split between Ashley Banks, Michele Klapper, and Naomi Salomon. The prizes were presented at the end-of-the-year reception last May, during which senior and double prize-winner Ashley Banks serenaded us with an aria from *Carmen*.

An increasing number of French majors are electing to spend a semester or their entire junior year abroad. Most choose to participate in Columbia's Paris program at Reid Hall. Over the past two years Reid Hall has launched several attractive new initiatives. Students

now begin their studies with a month-long language immersion called the 'Practicum'; during their first semester they take a required course on Academic Writing in French, which prepares them for success in courses taken at institutions such as the Sorbonne, Sciences-Po, and, for our joint French/science majors, the École Polytechnique. Another new initiative is the program of joint seminars conducted with partner universities including the Sorbonne and Sciences-Po. 10 students from Reid Hall and 10 students from a partner university in Paris participate in seminars devoted to topical issues. This year one group is studying French and American models of equal opportunity or "positive discrimination," while in another French/American seminar students are studying Paris as a capital of the arts.

Several of our French and Francophone studies majors have chosen to pursue study abroad opportunities outside of continental France. Last year Emma Jacobs studied in Senegal, while Cory-Alice Andre-Johnson studied in Madagascar. This year FFS major Sarah Layton is studying in Morocco.

In 2008-9 we offered a wide range of advanced undergraduate courses, including two

new courses, one on French cinema, the other devoted to the history of Islam in France. This year our two new faculty members, medievalist Sylvie Lefèvre, and philosopher and Africanist Bachir Diagne, are introducing new courses. Sylvie Lefèvre is teaching "The Author as Lawbreaker," and in the spring will offer a course on Lyric Poetry. Bachir Diagne is teaching a course on French philosophical writing titled "Discovering Existence." We are looking forward to a new spring semester undergraduate course on "The French New Wave," which will be taught by Philip Watts. Other spring courses will include: "Montaigne, Descartes, Pascal" (Pierre Force), "Love, Sex, and Gender in Modern French Culture" (Caroline Weber), and "Cultural Diversity in Contemporary France" (Madeleine Dobie).

We have very strong enrollments this year in our language, literature, and culture courses, as well as in the majors and concentrations. 47 students are currently registered in our two major tracks, and the numbers will go up in the spring, when majors are declared. We are delighted to welcome a dynamic new group of students to our undergraduate programs!

On a last note, I am glad to announce that our undergraduate French theater group, the *atelier de théâtre*, which has been dormant for several years, has recently been revived. Students at all levels are welcome to participate in this informal speech and performance group, which meets weekly at the Maison Française (Wednesday evenings, 7-8pm). I would like to thank the three organizers: Mary-Alice Farina; Céline Marangé; and Rebecca Sopchik, for relaunching the popular *atelier*.

—Madeleine Dobie
Director

MARC FUMAROLI, AZOUZ BEGAG DELIVER ANNUAL GRADUATE STUDENTS WIN FELLOWSHIPS EUGENE J. SHEFFER DISTINGUISHED LECTURES

In November 2007, Marc Fumaroli, Visiting Professor at Columbia and Alexander Bodini Senior Research Fellow at the Italian Academy, delivered a scintillating lecture at the Maison Française titled "Du rocaille au 'retour à l'antique': la peinture française au 18^e siècle." In April 2008, former French Minister for Equal Opportunities, Azouz Begag spoke on the subject of "L'Égalité des chances, made in France: Promesses et blocages." Both lectures were made possible by a generous endowment from the family of Ralph Sheffer, in honor of his brother Eugene Jay Sheffer (1905-1981) who served as director of the Maison Française from 1942 to 1966. A native of Long Island, Eugene J. Sheffer arrived at Columbia College as a Freshman in 1922 and remained at Columbia virtually his whole career until his retirement in 1966. As director of the Maison Française, Mr. Sheffer hosted talks by many of France's leading writers including Albert Camus, André Malraux, Jean-Paul Sartre, Simone de Beauvoir, Jules Romains, George Simenon and Vercors. His enthusiasm and efforts as director helped make the Maison Française one of the leading cultural institutions in New York for all things French. With the Sheffer Distinguished lectures, the Sheffer family and the Maison Française are honoring his legacy and indefatigable spirit.



In his lecture, Marc Fumaroli spoke about the "rocaille" style that flourished in France at the beginning of the 18th century, in the years following the War of the Spanish Succession. This gracious and piquant style was in tune with what Mr. Fumaroli called private happiness and could be found in painting, but also in

theater, in architecture and in the fashion of the early 1700s. It was an extremely popular style that seemed to fascinate not only France but all of Europe. Mr. Fumaroli's lecture focused on the development of this style, but also on the arrival, around 1750, of a neo-classical revival, a style infatuated with the military virtues of ancient Rome, opposed to the "rocaille," and announcing the turmoil of the Revolution and the Empire.



During the spring 2008 semester, Azouz Begag, sociologist, novelist and former Delegate Minister for Equal Opportunities in France, spoke on "L'Égalité des chances, made in France." Basing his talk on his own experiences, on his research and on his two years as Minister, Mr. Begag spoke about efforts to create forms of equal opportunity in France. Mr. Begag also spoke about similarities and differences between France and the United States, especially concerning government policy on immigration and integration.

Both lectures were a great success. The Maison Française's East Gallery was full for both events and the questions and discussions lasted well into the evening.

DAVID MACKLOVITCH is the recipient of the Grand Marnier Foundation Fellowship. KEVIN ERWIN has won the American Society of the French Legion Honor Fellowship. SÉVERINE MARTIN has been awarded a Reid Hall Fellowship. The winners of the Departmental Dissertation Fellowships are MALLIKA LECCEUR, SARAH-LOUISE RAILLARD, and BENJAMIN YOUNG. The ENS Paris Fellowship awards went to RODERICK COOKE and ANA OANCEA. The Departmental Summer Fellowships have been awarded to LISA ANCHIN, MATTHEW BRIDGE, RODERICK COOKE, MARY-ALICE FARINA, OLIVIA HARRISON, CASIANA IONITA, MEHAMMAD MACK, SÉVERINE MARTIN, ANA OANCEA, and TOBY WIKSTRÖM.

FRENCH DEPARTMENT LANGUAGE PROGRAM

Our language program and Denise Carroll returned to the department as adjuncts. The exchange students from the ENS are Marie Kuntzmann, Fanny Jaffray, and Mathilde Unger. The ranks of Teaching Fellows swelled this year with the arrival of seven newcomers in the language program. It is nice to note that all of the TF's with more than two years' teaching experience who are not currently on a dissertation or ENS fellowship are or will be teaching advanced courses in 2008-09, either in the Core or in our Department.

—Pascale Hubert-Leibler
Director

THE MODERN SALON

In the Spring of 2008, the Modern Salon, organized by a committee consisting of Paul Wimmer and Isabelle Coitoux, hosted three events in the Spring semester. On March 25th, the Salon welcomed Mary Shaw of Rutgers University who discussed her translation of the contemporary poet Claude Mouchard. On April 4th, Carole Allamand also of Rutgers University, discussed her latest project, a reading of various autobiographical works (by, among others, Jean Rouaud, Annie Ernaux, and Romain Gary) through the concept of the "scène primitive". Evelyne Ender of Hunter College and the CUNY Grad Center visited us on April 8th to discuss the first chapter from *Architexts of Memory: Literature, Science, and Autobiography*, (2005) entitled "The Aroma of the Past: Marcel Proust and the Science of Memory". All sessions were well attended which made for engaging and lively discussion. The Modern Salon committee for 2008-9 consists of Paul Wimmer, Alexandra Perisic, and Casiana Ionita.

- Casiana Ionita

FRENCH FACULTY NEWS

VINCENT AURORA following his eighth year review was renewed in his position as Lecturer. He was, for the seventh year, Departmental Representative to the Summer Session program, whose strong enrollment required for the first time doubling sections for all first and second year courses. He wrote the article "French Literature of 2007: France" for the Encyclopedia Britannica Yearbook, both designed and implemented a new 1202 course with an emphasis on politics and foreign affairs for the intention of SIPA students, and taught a class for the first time at Reid Hall, Columbia's program in Paris.

ANTOINE COMPAGNON taught at Columbia in the fall of 2007, and in the spring of 2008 at the Collège de France, where the title of his course was "Morales de Proust." Apart from France and the US, he lectured at Società Universitaria per gli Studi di lingua e letteratura francese, Roma; Katholieke Universiteit, Leuven; Université de Genève; Society of Dix-Neuviémistes, University of Manchester; Universidad Complutense, Madrid; Tel Aviv University. He published a preface to Montaigne, *Los Ensayos*, Barcelona, Acantilado, 2007; "Nazisme, histoire et féerie: retour sur *Les Bienveillantes*", *Critique*, vol. 726, 2007; "La théorie baudelairienne des nombres", *La Licorne* ("Baudelaire et les formes poétiques"), vol. 83, 2008; "Proust et la légende des siècles », in *Marcel Proust. Die Legende der Zeiten im Kunstwerk der Erinnerung*, ed. Karlheinz Stierle, Frankfurt, Insel-Verlag, 2007; "Joseph Reinach et l'éloquence française", *Commentaire*, vol. 120, 2007, and in *Les Frères Reinach*, ed. Sophie Basch, Michel Espagne et Jean Leclant, Académie des

inscriptions et belles-lettres – De Boccard, 2008; "Comme la souffrance va plus loin en psychologie que la psychologie", in *Psychologies fin de siècle*, ed. Jean-Louis Cabanès, Jacqueline Carroy et Nicole Edelman, Université Paris Ouest, 2008; "Vies parallèles", *Critique* ("Bergson"), vol. 732, 2008; "Thibaudet chargé de reliques", *Le Débat*, vol. 150, 2008. He was appointed president of the "Conseil scientifique" of the École Normale Supérieure, and president of the section on "Classical Literature and Literary Criticism" of the Centre National du Livre (CNL).

PETER CONNOR spent the Spring semester in Paris, where he taught a course on Translation at the Centre Parisien d'Etudes Critiques and carried out research for a book about translation and the formation of national identity. Beginning this semester he will be Director of the project to promote "Translation Across the Disciplines" at Barnard College, made possible thanks to a four-year grant from the Mellon Foundation.

VINCENT DEBAENE edited the works of Claude Lévi-Strauss in the "Bibliothèque de la Pléiade", for which he wrote the general introduction and prepared the critical edition of *Tristes tropiques*. The volume was published in May 2008 and met with unexpected success. In collaboration with Frédéric Keck, he is currently finishing an illustrated intellectual biography of Claude Lévi-Strauss for the series "Découvertes / Gallimard", which will be published in the spring 2009. He is also revising his dissertation on the relationship between literature and anthropology in 20th-century France, which will be published by Gallimard in the "Bibliothèque des sciences

humaines" series under the title *L'Adieu au voyage* in Fall 2009. As part of this book project, he gave a talk on scientists and writers in modern France at the international conference "Historical Epistemology," held at the Maison Française in October. In connection with the Pléiade edition and the centenary of Claude Lévi-Strauss, he gave several talks in the fall and the winter at DePaul University (Chicago), at NYU's Maison Française, at the Musée du Quai Branly in Paris and in Bombay and New Delhi this coming January. He also organized in December a roundtable on "Claude Lévi-Strauss and literature", cosponsored by the French Department, the Maison Française and the Department of Anthropology. The event gathered specialists of Lévi-Strauss's work from both anthropological and literary fields and from Europe and

the U.S. In collaboration with Prof. Antoine Compagnon, he is editing the proceedings of the international conference "Literary Histories of Literatures" which was held at the Maison Française in October 2007. These proceedings will form a special issue of the *Romanic Review* aptly numbered 100 which will be published in Spring 2009. This year, he continues to organize the French department workshop, which is held once a month and discusses works in progress by advanced graduate students and faculty members. Spring 2009, in addition to teaching LitHum and a survey class on French literature after 1800, Professor Debaene will teach a cross-departmental graduate seminar entitled "Lévi-Strauss on trial" on the controversies raised by Lévi-Strauss' work.

SOULEYMANE BACHIR DIAGNE is
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PROFESSOR EMMANUEL NAYA



The Department of French was delighted to welcome Emmanuel Naya as Visiting Professor for the Fall 2008 semester. Professor Naya taught a graduate course in 16th century literature with great success. Currently Maître de conférences at the Université Lumière Lyon 2, Emmanuel Naya wrote his dissertation on the rediscovery of skepticism in the 16th century and he works on the relations between literature and philosophy in the Renaissance. His books include *Rabelais: Une anthropologie humaniste des passions* (1998), *Essais de Michel Seigneur de Montaigne* (2006), *Eloge de la médiocrité* (2008) and a translation and commentary on Seneca's *De Brevitate vitae*. He is currently preparing a new scholarly edition of Montaigne's *Essays* forthcoming with Gallimard. Naya's recent articles include " 'I Am No Philosopher': Montaigne's Suspension of Philosophical Ethos", in *Revelations of Character: Ethos, Rhetoric and Moral Philosophy in Montaigne*, ed. Corinne Noiroit-Maguire and Valérie M. Dionne (2007) and "Périphérie et point centrique: la crise de la signification chez Rabelais" in *La Renaissance décentrée*, ed. Fr. Tinguely (2008). Naya was also recently elected a junior member to the prestigious Institut Universitaire de France for the years 2008-2013.

GRADUATE STUDENT NEWS

ANNELE CURULLA is a visiting instructor in the Department of Romance Languages at Bowdoin College. In November, she chaired a panel on gothic melodrama at the Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association's annual meeting. In March, she will present a paper entitled "Reviving *Mélanie*: Jean-François de La Harpe and His Critics" at the American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies' annual meeting.

JASON EARLE presented "Contre-Attaque's Antagonisms" at this year's FGSA conference. He has also been working as research curator at the New York Public Library for the exhibition "Between Collaboration and Resistance: French Literary Life under Nazi Occupation," scheduled to open in April 2009.

KEVIN ERWIN presented a paper, "Missing Persons: Barbey d'Aureville Critiques Progressive Historiography," at the University of Washington's Aesthetics and (Self)Deception Conference in October 2007. He also presented, "Le Mystique de la Tradition: Barbey Worships at the Altar of Joseph de Maistre" at the Fifth International Colloquium on Joseph de Maistre, University of Cambridge, in December 2008.

JONATHAN ESKEW presented "Il faut du calcul, et point de vers: Newtonian Physics and Poetic Languages in the Eighteenth Century" at the American Society for Eighteenth Century Studies' annual conference (Portland, 3/27-30), and published a review of Michael R. Lynn's *Popular Science and Public Opinion in Eighteenth-Century France* in the October 2007 issue of *Annals of Science*.

OLIVIA HARRISON co-organized a panel entitled "Crossing the Lines: Women and War in the Middle East" at the 2008 Middle East Studies Association Annual Meeting, where she presented a paper entitled "Domestic Transgressions: Economies of Gender and Genre in Etel Adnan's *Sitt Marie Rose*."

MAX KRAMER defended his dissertation, "The Poetry of Inversion: Queer Metaphor in Arthur Rimbaud, Stefan George, and Federico García Lorca," on September 15. He published two articles, "L'Orientation sexuelle : La percée de l'identité gay dans le monde musulman," in *QUEER : Écritures de la différence ?* Ed. P. Zoberman. Paris: L'Harmattan, 2008, pp. 187-218, and "Sexual Orientation: The Ideological Underpinnings of the Gay Advance in Muslim-Majority Societies as Witnessed in Online Chatrooms" for *Contemporary Studies in Homosexuality and the Muslim World*, Ed. S. Habib, Praeger, 2009. In November 2008 he attended, "The Economy of Queer Sex in Franco-phone Maghrebian Literature as a Response to

Western Identity Politics" for "Queering the Middle East: Globalizations, Contestations, and Resistances," MESA Annual Meeting.

MEHAMMAD MACK's paper entitled "Le retour de l'Arabité: Arab-Jewish métissage and Maghrebian Jewish identity" which he presented at the Franco-Arabic Cultures Today conference at UNC-Raleigh Durham in April 2008, will be published in Spring 2009 in the book *Franco-Arabic Cultures Today* (<http://www.unc.edu/francoarabic/index.html>). Also in the spring of 2008, at the ROTO (Rhetoric of the Other) conference at the University of Illinois (Champaign-Urbana), he presented a paper entitled "Ethical Proof: Rachid O. and the Case for a Home-grown Moroccan homosensualité" (<http://www.french.uiuc.edu/conferences/program.htm>). In November 2008, at the MESA (Middle-Eastern Studies Association) conference in Washington DC, he presented a paper entitled "Beur is Beautiful: Urban Maghrebi youth in France, the Kelma organization, and the browning of 'homosexuality'" (<http://www.mesa.arizona.edu/annual/program.htm>). He has been awarded the Academic-Year FLAS Fellow in Arabic and Area Studies (subject: North African Immigration and France) for the 2008-2009 academic year.

SARAH-LOUISE RAILLARD participated in the Graduate Student Translation Conference hosted at Columbia by The Center for Literary Translation. She presented several translations of poems by French and Spanish poets such as Jules Supervielle, Paul-Jean Toulet, Gabriel Celaya, and Philippe Jaccottet.

TOBY WIKSTRÖM delivered the paper "Unoccupied Land and Its Ironies in Chrétien des Croix's *Les Portugais infortunés* (1608) as part of the panel "Current Research on Seventeenth Century French Literature" at the MLA Annual Conference in December 2007. In February 2008 he gave the paper "L'Ennemi turc : *La Rhodienne, ou la cruauté de Soliman* (Pierre Mainfray, 1621)" at the FGSA Graduate Student Conference. He also participated in the Law and Literature Workshop organized by the Cardozo Law School and the Université de Paris-X in June 2008, speaking on law and judgment in the staging of Early Modern Christian-Muslim encounters. In addition, through an arrangement with the Cultural Services of the French Embassy, Toby taught French to teachers and staff at Public School 125 in Harlem during the 2007-2008 school year.

delighted to have now moved to New York City and joined the Faculty of the Department of French and Romance Philology. This fall he taught a Core Curriculum course (Contemporary Western Civilization) and another undergraduate course titled "Discovering Existence" in which Pascal, Descartes, Sartre, Camus, Levinas were read and discussed. The book he has been working on, especially during his few months sabbatical leave after January 2007, has just come out under the title : *Comment philosopher en Islam? (How to philosophize in Islam)* (Paris, Panama, 2008). He traveled to Paris at the end of November for the promotion of the book. An essay in which he compares two authors to whom he has devoted two books, Senegalese poet and philosopher Léopold Sédar Senghor and Indian poet and philosopher Muhammad Iqbal is coming out in the next issue of the Journal *Qui Parle* (University of California, Berkeley) under the title "Bergson in the Colony. Intuition and Duration in the Thought of Senghor and Iqbal". He gave several lectures this year, mainly on Senghor and Césaire, in particular at Columbia University where he spoke on "Senghor as a Philosopher" at the Institute of African Studies and gave a contribution on "Césaire and Senghor" during a tribute to Césaire at the Maison Française.

MADELEINE DOBIE returned from family leave, and resumed her role as Director of Undergraduate Studies in 2008-9. She taught courses on Cultural Diversity in Contemporary France, Islam and/in France, and Literature, Gender, and Sexuality in the Maghreb. In April she invited the French writer and former Minister of Equal Opportunity, Azouz Begag, to deliver the Eugene Scheffer Lecture,

and to participate in a conference on literature, immigration, and Islam in Europe organized by the Department of Germanic Studies. In May, 2008 she gave the plenary address at the conference, Humanism, Human Rights, & Ethics in French & Francophone Studies at the University of California, Santa-Barbara. She spoke on: "Slavery, Human Rights, and the French Enlightenment." Her article "Invisible Exodus: the Cultural Effacement of Antillean Migration," was published in the journal *Diaspora* in spring 2008. She has also recently 'completed' her book, "Trading Places: Colonization and Slavery in Eighteenth-Century French Culture," a study of the displaced representation of colonialism and slavery in eighteenth-century French literature and material culture.

PIERRE FORCE stepped down as department chair in December 2007, after ten and a half years of service, and is now enjoying a sabbatical year. In February 2008, he gave two talks at Stanford University: one on Montaigne's skepticism, and the other on Pierre Hadot's interpretation of Wittgenstein. In June 2008, he chaired the academic review of the department of languages and literatures at the *Ecole normale supérieure* (Paris). He also joined the governing board of the Institute for Advanced Study of Paris. His current book project is on novelty claims in early modern literature and science.

KAIAMA L GLOVER has been working toward the completion of her manuscript, *Zombies Become Warriors: the Spiralist Challenge to the Post/Colonial Canon*, a study of the general issue of canon formation in the French-speaking Caribbean and of the particular fate of the twentieth century Haitian Spiralist authors vis-à-vis this canon. Articles extracted from this manuscript have recently

appeared in a number of peer reviewed journals, including her essay on the pitfalls of theory in the post/colonial Caribbean, "The Consequences of 'Not-Paris'" (*Journal of Post-colonial Writings* 44.3 September 2008) and "Showing vs. Telling: *spiralisme* in the light of *antillanité*" (*Journal of Haitian Studies* 14.1 spring 2008). She was also invited by the editors of the *Journal of Haitian Studies* to republish her article "Exploiting the Undead: the Usefulness of the Zombie Figure in Haitian Literature" (*JOHS* 1.2 fall 2005) as part of a forthcoming anthology titled *Beyond Revolution: 200 Years of Haitian History and Culture* (Indiana University Press). In addition, Professor Glover's essay "Ecrire la schizophrénie: la configuration du personnage dans l'œuvre 'spiraliste' de Frankétienne, Jean-Claude Figolé et René Philoctète" will appear in the critical anthology *Ecrire Haïti Aujourd'hui*. This year also brought the publication of "Josephine Baker: a Century in the Spotlight," Professor Glover's two-volume special issue of *The Scholar and the Feminist Online* (6.1-6.2 fall 2007-spring 2008). Also, in March of this year, Professor Glover delivered a talk at the Alliance Française for the American Association of Teachers of French - "Douce Folie: représentations de la femme dans la littérature haïtienne" - in which she spoke about portrayals of "mad" women in Haitian fiction. She looks forward to teaching the graduate seminar "Women in/of Disorder" in the spring of 2009.

DANIELLE HAASE-DUBOSC continued to serve on the *Comité de pilotage* of the "Dictionnaire des femmes de l'ancienne France" (for the seventeenth-century in particular) as well as on the editorial board of *Nouvelles Questions Féministes*, the *Women Studies Quarterly*, and board of the *Association*

The University Seminar on Early Modern France

The University Seminar on Early Modern France (USEMF) has begun another successful year of lively interdisciplinary discussions of the literary, historical and cultural issues of the Early Modern period.

Entering its fourth year as a University Seminar, the group continues to espouse the aim of the "Salon" (as it is still affectionately known to many members and guests) started by graduate students in the Department and the then junior Professor Pierre Force over fifteen years ago. Indeed, meetings of the USEMF forgo any type of formal presentation in favor of an in-depth discussion centering on a text written by a guest scholar. The USEMF's membership consists primarily of a core group of regular attendees—both professors and graduate students—from the French Department, as well as scholars from the Columbia History department, and from other institutions as close as Princeton and NYU and as far as Paris. PIERRE FORCE and BENJAMIN YOUNG continued as the Seminar Chair and organizer, respectively, under the auspices of the Office of University Seminars.

This year's guests included scholars with wide-ranging interests, including Marc Fumaroli (Académie Française), Hélène Merlin-Kajman (Paris III), Caroline Weber (Barnard), Volker Schröder (Princeton), Françoise Lavocat (Paris VII), Thomas Parker (Vassar) and Loïc Charles (INED).

—Benjamin Young

France Union Indienne. She Columbia University Institute attended the conference for Scholars, faculty adviser for "Global French" at Harvard the MA in French Cultural University in December 2007 Studies, and member of the during which plans were made *Maison des Sciences de* for the writing of a volume *l'Homme* selection committee designed to present new for scholars. As Associate Provost, approaches to the history of she serves as the link between French literature. Her contribution Reid Hall and the University at led her to write a chapter "A large and co-ordinates many Genealogy of Feminine Paths cultural events at Reid Hall. across Centuries and Borders", Two deserve special mention in the book, entitled "French here: the Colloquium "Black Global" to be published by France", held at the Hall in June Columbia University Press in 2008, and the memorial poetry 2009. She presented a paper reading in honor of the late entitled "Crossing Borders, Mahmoud Darwish, held October Changing Sex: Utopic Dimensions, fifth, 2008.

Dystopic Moments" at the HEIDI HOLST-KNUDSEN presented a paper at the American of Development' conference, Association of French Teachers held on February 14-15th in conference in January entitled Paris. She also spoke at the "Le journal vu comme "Centre National des Livres", dispositif pédagogique: Comment about Amanda Devi's new book intégrer l'actualité en cours de "Moi, l'Interdite", May 30th, langue". She is currently 2008 and participated at the working on developing a Musée du quai Branly in a database of audiovisual materials with associated pedagogical materials through CCNMTL's VI-TAL media resource.

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PASCALE HUBERT-LEIBLER gave a presentation entitled "L'Internet, une multitude de fenêtres sur les cultures francophones" last January at the annual colloquium for high school teachers of French organized by the Maison Française at Columbia and the AATF. As she has been doing since 2002, she also organized the 2008 Orientation Workshop for New Language Teaching Fellows, which is offered every year shortly before classes begin by Columbia's foreign language departments, and gave a presentation for novice language TF's on teaching reading in a foreign language in September 2008 at the Columbia Teaching Center. She continued to work with six other colleagues from the German, French, Italian, and Spanish departments at Columbia, U Penn, Princeton, and Yale on the *Teach Project*, a website of resources for the training of language instructors sponsored by the Consortium for Language Teaching and Learning.

She presented the site, together with her Columbia colleague Angelina Craig-Florèz, at a conference titled "Reassessing the Foreign Language Curriculum in the Age of Globalization," organized by the Consortium for Language Teaching and Learning and the Brown University Center for Language Studies on April 5th, 2008. The site went live in August 2008 and can be viewed at the following URL: <http://theteachproject.org/>.

ELISABETH LADENSON was on leave in France in Spring 2008. In between trying to work on her book on Colette and editing the *Romanic Review*, she delivered lectures at the Collège de France and Oxford University in February, on respectively, "Proust, Balzac, et la morale publique," and "Colette and Flaubert." In March she returned to New York for graduate recruitment, and also traveled to the University of Illinois (Urbana) to give the keynote speech, "Snails and Oysters, or a Brief History of Queerness," for the

fifth "Rhetoric of the Other" conference on queer French studies. She published review essays on *Madame Proust* in the *London Review of Books* (May 8 issue), and on Nancy Cunard in *Modernism/Modernity* (Spring 2008). In September she returned to Columbia and took up her duties as DGS, as well as teaching Literature-Humanities and the graduate survey of 19th-century literature. She spoke on "Colette and the Second Sex" at the Simone de Beauvoir conference held at NYU on September 20th, and on October 17th on "Balzac the Unavoidable" at the Nineteenth-Century French Studies conference held in Nashville, for which she organized and chaired the panel "Changing Reputations." This year she was elected to the MLA Executive Division on 19th-Century French Literature and the Executive Council of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences at Columbia, where she was also named to the Board of the Society of Fellows. In December she

gave a paper entitled "The Money Shot" on the "Money in 19th-Century French Literature" panel at the MLA in San Francisco. Forthcoming publications include an article based on her Collège de France paper; an essay on "Proust and Censorship" in a special "Censorship" issue of the Dutch journal *Frame*; and the "Censorship" entry in the *Blackwell Encyclopedia of the Novel*. She is currently trying to think up appropriately spectacular ways to celebrate the centenary of *Romanic Review*, of which the first issue appeared in January 1910.

SYLVIE LEFEVRE has joined the Department as Professor of French this fall. She received her academic training in France, where she was a fellow of the Ecole normale supérieure. She took the Agrégation de Lettres classiques (1984) and received her doctorate (1992) and habilitation (2002) from the University of Paris-Sorbonne. She taught at the University of Orléans and

THE MAISON FRANÇAISE OF COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

It's our 95th season at the Maison Française, and change is in the air! Samuel Skippon, our Associate Director, has moved on to a new position teaching full-time in the department. While we will miss his learned expertise and superlative administration, we are pleased for him -- and for the department, since so many more students will now be able to benefit from his enthusiasm for teaching French. Back at the Maison, we are fortunate indeed to be joined by the department's own Emilie Littlehales, who acts as Program Coordinator and oversees all events sponsored by the Maison.

Highlights from our 2007-2008 season included the wonderful conference organized by Professors Compagnon and Debaene: "Literary Histories of Literature", as well as our first two Eugene J. Sheffer Distinguished Lectures, delivered by *Académicien* Marc Fumaroli and former French Minister for Equal Opportunities Azouz Begag. We also hosted a two-day visit from political scientist Françoise

Vergès and a one-day conference in honor of historian Isser Woloch. In March, the Maison was packed to capacity for Jean-Luc Nancy's visit to Columbia, and our new initiative, a Thursday luncheon seminar series, brought Jacques Revel, Emmanuelle Loyer, Yves Citton, Nancy Green, and Laura Downs, among others, to campus for in-depth seminar talks and lively discussions.

Our Fall 2008 program featured a number of luminaries from the spheres of politics and the arts: in October, we hosted former minister of foreign affairs, Hervé de Charette, while November brought visits from Fatou Diome and Christian Boltanski. We were delighted to have Department Chair Phil Watts kick off our luncheon seminar series on Sept. 25; this series welcomed to campus Harvard historian Judith Surkis and French political scientist Vincent Duclert. Two special events honored the lives of major French figures: in October, the Maison Française hosted a round-table tribute to Aimé

Césaire, and we closed out the fall semester in December with a panel commemorating the *centenaire* of Claude Lévi-Strauss by examining his influence on literary studies.

We continue to sponsor our popular recurring events: Café Conversation on Tuesdays from 5:00pm-7:00pm and Cinema Thursdays at 7:30pm; this year both benefit from the enthusiastic and capable leadership of our new French intern, Pauline Labib-Lamour. The Book Club, which meets monthly, continues to blossom under the thoughtful direction of Danièle Lasser. Please check the Maison's website: www.maisonfrancaise.org for their scheduled meetings.

Finally, we must note with great sadness the untimely passing in August of our friend Philippe Mathé from Société Générale, who joined the Advisory Board of the Maison Française in 2005. He was a true friend of the Maison Française and will be missed.

—Nicole Rudolph
Director

Saint-Etienne before she joined the Institut de recherche et d'histoire des textes (1990-1995), laboratory of the CNRS. At the moment, she is in charge of the Section romane of the IRHT. Associate professor at the ENS (1995-2004), she became professor at the University of Tours. Her principal teaching and research interests include French medieval literature (XIIe-XVe), history of manuscript and book, philology and literary theory. She is the author of *Antoine de La Sale, La fabrique de l'œuvre et de l'écrivain* (Droz, 2006) and published in collaboration le *Roman de Renart* (Gallimard, La Pléiade, 1998), *Album de manuscrits français du XIIIe siècle. Mise en page et mise en texte* (Viella, Rome, 2001). This spring, she has published the proceedings of a colloquium *La lettre dans la littérature romane du Moyen Age* (Paradigme, Orléans). Some of his publications were: "L'invention de l'espace de curiosité: la marge et le cadre dans des livres manuscrits de la fin du Moyen Age et du premier XVIe siècle", in *Le theatre de la curiosite*, Paris, 2008; "Le *Lais* de Villon, texte d'un voleur, texte volé?", in *Quant l'ung amy pour l'autre veille. Mélanges de moyen français offerts à Claude Thiry*, éd. T. Van Hemelryck and M. Colombo Timelli, Turnhout, Brepols, 2008; "Les rémanences de l'impératif ovidien "Dicere quae pudit, scribe iussit amor" (*Héroïdes*, IV, 10) dans les saluts d'oc et d'oïl du Moyen Age", in *L'épistolaire antique et ses prolongements européens, Ve Colloque international de Tours*, eds P. Laurence and F. Guillaumont, 2008. She gave a talk "Mise en page et double page" for a conference about *L'immagine del testo* at the Scuola di Dottorato europea in Filologia romanza (Pavia); and a paper entitled "Tentations lyrique et

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NEWS FROM REID HALL

As Columbia University's premier center for educational and cultural exchange in Paris, France, Reid Hall continues to attract numerous students and scholars from major universities throughout the United States and the world. It also hosts numerous cultural and social events, such as the monthly literary readings staged by *Textes et Voix* and *Double Change* and the Bollywood film series. In addition, Reid Hall is an important component of Columbia University's global outreach. For example, Reid Hall participated in CAA 2007, the Columbia Alumni Association's worldwide launch with: a *Historic Tour of Reid Hall and Montparnasse*; *An Inside Look at College Admissions* by Jessica Marinaccio; welcome receptions for GSAS and GSAPP; and *Café Science* with David J. Helfand. In January 2008, Professor Sudhir Venkatesh held his Urban Research Workshop at Reid Hall for students from Sciences Po. Guest speakers and colloquia were scheduled throughout the year; for instance, Judith Butler spoke on *Humanité, inhumanité, déshumanisation: pour qui valent les 'droits humains'?* Genres, religions, quartiers, Palestine and Marcus Bruce, Institute Fellow, organized a highly successful colloquium on *Black France*, dedicated to Aimé Césaire, Michel Fabre, and Ousmane Sembene.

The Columbia University Institute for Scholars, inaugurated at Reid Hall in 2001, has indeed become a vital part of our intellectual community. Over 160 scholars from around the world have had the opportunity to pursue their research in Paris using the facilities and academic assistance provided by the Institute. While the majority of Fellows are specialists in the humanities and social sciences, artists, writers, and scientists are also welcome. Each semester, the scholars in residence formally present their work in progress to an audience of students and faculty; some also teach in Columbia's graduate and undergraduate program. Offices at the Institute are made available for Columbia and Barnard faculty during the summer months.

The Columbia-Penn undergraduate programs and the **Masters in French Cultural Studies** attract over 165 students each year. These students come to Paris to sharpen their French through everyday practice and to examine in-depth the issues pertinent to French society in a European and global context. They attend classes at Reid Hall and in the French University system.

Undergraduate students share their everyday life with French host families, conduct field visits and fieldwork, meet and study with French and International students, and access a wealth of resources at partner French universities. More and more are enrolled in two or three classes at the Universities of Paris, I, IV, VII, or Sciences Po

where they have a broad selection of courses in history, literature, political science, international relations, economics, urban studies, art history, but also in biophysics, chemistry and mathematics. Tutorials held at Reid Hall in French language and university work methods provide them with the tools necessary to confront with confidence a different educational style. Each semester, at least one student joins a research team at the Pasteur Institute working on the structural and biochemical characterization of a DNA-protein complex. Over twenty students per year work on individual research projects leading to lengthy papers in French on a wide variety of topics, such as: *Oscar Wilde et le mythe de Salomé*; *Le rôle de la religion dans les pièces de Molière*; *Questions de langue et de séparation: le québécois et le français*; *L'influence du colonialisme sur l'art Vietnamien*; *Analyse du Quatuor à cordes de Ravel*; *L'Histoire des sciences - étude de Pierre-Louis Gratiolet*.

French students now come to Reid Hall in greater numbers, particularly to attend the Honors Seminars jointly sponsored by the Columbia-Penn Programs and a French University partner. In 2007-2008, two such seminars were offered: *Diversité, mobilité sociale, discrimination positive* (with Sciences Po) and *L'actualité artistique à Paris* (with Paris I). Others will be developed with the Universities of Paris IV (literature) and Paris VII (world health), as well as with a "classe de prépa" for the *Grandes Écoles* (French-USA relations).

Students enrolled in the year-long **MA in French Cultural Studies in a Global Context**, attend seminars at Reid Hall, the EHESS, Sciences Po and other Paris universities. For their MA essay, they conduct original research under the direction of a French professor; the 2007-2008 students worked on such pertinent topics as: *Perceptions of Women in the Literary and Artistic Works of Manet and his Bourgeois Contemporaries*; *Le rôle du rap dans la culture française*, *Une étude de cas: Casey; les rapports politiques entre Alger-Paris-Washington pendant la Guerre Civile en Algérie 1992-1998*. Many of our former MA students are currently enrolled in PhD programs in the USA or France.

Students who have come through our programs often make a point of visiting this place that played such pivotal role in their personal and professional lives; in the words of one such student: "It's difficult to leave a place like Reid Hall. That's why so many of us return to our second home abroad that is always ready to welcome us back."

—Danielle Haase-Dubosc
Executive Director
—Brunhilde Biebuyck
Director

allégorique dans le salut d'amour" at the seminar of Prof. Michel Zink, Collège de France. She has recently offered a graduate course on Texts and Images and will teach the survey of Medieval literature in the spring of 2009. She is working on a new critical edition of *L'Heptaméron* de Marguerite de Navarre with Nicole Cazauran (ed. Champion).

SYLVÈRE LOTRINGER was on Sabbatical Leave for 2007-2008. He gave eleven lectures: "The Spirit of Baudrillard" and "Remember Foucault," at the European Graduate School, Saas-fee, Switzerland, June 3-4, 2008; "L'impense(e) de 68," Forum et Actions Modernites, Paris, Theatre du Rond-Point, June 2, 2008. During a lecture tour in Italy, he lectured on "Artaud's Dream," Alkesis Theater Laboratory, Calgari, Sardenia, March 7, 2008; on "Time and Communication," Calgari University, Sardenia, March 5, 08; on "Artaud on the Stage," University of Torino, March 2008; on "la fine de l'Esperanza," MODO infoshop, Bologna, Feb. 29, 08. He also lectured on "The Situationism International and Art" and "Post-Fordist Philosophy," Yale University, Arts department, Feb 13-14, 2008; "Communality in Art," Columbia University, Arts department, February 2008; "Baudrillard's Homage to Foucault," French House, NYU January, 2008. He published six articles and catalogue essays: "Hardliners in Babylone," *Pataphysics*, Melbourne, Fall 2008; "Going for Broke," [On Josephine Meckseper's Aktuelle Kunst] *GAK Gessellschaft*, Bremen, 2008; "Gewagtes Spiel," *Checkpoint Magazine*, Berlin, September 2008; "The Great Refusal," *Artforum International*, May 68 issue, May 2008; "A Revolutionary Process Never Ends," a discussion with Toni Negri, op. cit; "Requiem for Baudrillard," *Poiesis*, Vol. 10, 2008; *Farimani*, Issue One,

New York, 2008. He made a video-dialogue with Paul Virilio, "Itineraries of Catastrophes," 30mn on June 12, 2008 in La Rochelle and gave a 3 hour video-interview for Julia Haslet's film on SW, fragments of which were exhibited at Exit Art, New York, in August 2008 by artist Thomas Torres in a video-installation.

SOPHIE QUEUNIET's first year at Columbia was occupied by the teaching of Intermediate French II and a third year conversation class where she implemented some of the new technological tools (Wimba and Wikispaces) that Courseworks and the Language Resource Center offer to improve students' pronunciation and writing. She presented the French Online 1 DVD at CALICO in San Francisco last March and contributed to the TEACH project, a website of resources for the training of language instructors. This Fall, she is coordinating the Intermediate I classes and teaching the first Intermediate French I class designed for the students of the School of International Public Affairs.

NICOLE RUDOLPH continues as Director of the Maison Française. In January 2008, she gave a talk entitled "L'Architecture: entrée aux études de la langue et de la civilisation" for the New York Metropolitan Chapter of the American Association of Teachers of French, and in March 2008 she delivered a conference paper at the University of Nottingham (UK) Homes and Homecomings conference. Called "Who Should Be the Author of a Dwelling? Architects versus Housewives in 1950s France," it is currently under review for publication in a special issue of *Gender and History*. This year she was pleased to serve as Course Coordinator for French 1102 (Fall) and 1101 (Spring).

EMMANUELLE SAADA finished her first full year of teaching at

FRENCH GRADUATE STUDENT ASSOCIATION

The French Graduate Student Association of Columbia University (FGSA) would like to thank all its members who helped with FGSA events last year, as well as to those who have volunteered for the upcoming academic year. Thanks to the active participation of graduate students in the Department, the association completed another successful year of activities.

During 2008-2009, for the first time in its history and as allowed by its constitution, the Association is represented by five graduate students! In addition to the standard President, Vice President and Financial Officer positions, this expanded board of officers allows for Correspondence and Activities Officers.

In February, the FGSA held its 17th Annual Conference at the Maison Française, "L'Ennemi: Difference and Antagonism in Literature," which included students from the department and institutions around the country, as well as Canada, France and the United Kingdom. This also marked the first time an FGSA conference was co-sponsored by the Graduate Student Advisory Council (GSAC). Given the interdisciplinary nature of many of its members' work and the Association's interaction with other departments in the Humanities, the FGSA intends to continue this partnership and encourage a variety of approaches to its conference topics.

The FGSA also sponsored a number of workshops to help graduate students at various

stages in their careers, including a new "professionalization" workshop and an MLA mock interview and much, much more. The Association also held its traditional dinner for incoming students and their current student "buddies," as well as a widely attended end-of-the-year party. As usual, FGSA representatives participated in the Department's executive committee meetings and held regular membership meetings open to all FGSA members. New representatives were elected in the spring.

Next year's FGSA conference, co-sponsored by GSAC, will be held on March 6, 2009 at the Maison Française. It will be entitled "Circulation: Knowledge and the Literary." Further details, including the Call for Papers, are available on the FGSA web site, at www.columbia.edu/cu/french/fgsaconf.

The 2007-2008 FGSA representatives were: Emilie Littlehales (Vice President), Toby Wikström (Financial Director) and Benjamin Young (President).

The 2008-2009 FGSA representatives are: Lisa Anchin (Communications Officer), Matthew Bridge (President), Jonathan Eskew (Financial Director), Casiana Ionita (Vice President) and Sarah Lazur (Activities Officer).

For all inquiries concerning the FGSA, workshops and other FGSA-sponsored events, please email fgsa@columbia.edu or visit <http://www.columbia.edu/cu/french/fgsa>.

—Benjamin Young

JOB MARKET REPORT

—Recent graduates have secured the following positions—

DAISY AARONIAN, French Instructor, Lesley University
ZEINA HAKIM, Assistant Professor, Tufts University
MAX KRAMMER, Visiting Instructor, Sarah Lawrence College
DANIEL LEONARD, Visiting Assistant Professor at Adelphi
ANDREA THOMAS, Visiting Assistant Professor, Catholic University
NOURA WEDELL, Faculty Associate, Ecole normale supérieure, Lyon

Columbia University in 2008, with classes at the undergraduate and graduate level. With Vincent Debaene, she also initiated a monthly French Department workshop where advanced students and faculty present work in progress. As the director of the Center for French and Francophone Studies, she has collaborated extensively with Nicole Rudolph, the director of the Maison Française, on developing a joint program of speakers and lectures. Her 2007 book, *Les Enfants de la colonie : les métis de l'Empire français entre sujétion et citoyenneté*, was awarded the Auguste Pavie Prize by the *Académie des Sciences d'Outre-mer* and has been nominated for the Jean Zay prize. It has been widely and favorably reviewed in French newspapers and literary magazines, radio shows, blogs and academic journals. She also guest edited a special issue of the journal *Genèses, Sciences sociales et Histoire* entitled "La Parole est aux indigènes!" (69, December 2007). Other recent publications include "Le 'modèle républicain'

de la citoyenneté au miroir de la colonization"--a contribution to *Histoires Coloniales. Héritages et Transmissions* (Paris : Bibliothèque Centre Pompidou, 2007), "Un droit postcolonial" (*Plein Droit*, 74, October 2007), and several book reviews for *Les Annales* and *Vingtième Siècle*. Her current research focuses on nineteenth century Algeria and the historiography of colonialism and postcolonialism. Finally, with her husband and son, she has had the great joy of welcoming a baby girl, Ava, to her family on April 20, 2008.

JOANNA STALNAKER was on parental leave in the fall of 2007 for the birth of her second child, Félix Leveau, but resumed teaching in the spring of 2008, when she taught the Advanced Translation Workshop for undergraduates and the Eighteenth-Century Survey for graduate students. While revising her manuscript on Enlightenment description, *The Unfinished Enlightenment*, she began a new project on last works and literary testaments in the late Enlightenment, tentatively entitled *The End of*

Enlightenment. She will present a portion of this new project at the American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies' annual meeting in the spring, with a paper called "Buffon on Death." She published a book review on Susan McCready's *The Limits of Performance in the French Romantic Drama* in the *Modern Language Review*, and participated in the conference on Enlightenment Teleology at Columbia in October.

PHIL WATTS continues as Chair of the Department of French. He teaches courses on modern French literature and film, including an undergraduate course on "Literature and Democracy" in fall 2008. He recently published two articles: "Aeschylus Soup" on Jacques Rivette's films in *Contemporary French Civilization* (Summer 2008) and with Yves Citton "rolandbarthesgillesdeleuze" on Barthes' and Deleuze's last lectures in the *Revue Internationale des livres* (Summer 2008). He presented several papers this year, including "Pictures and Proof" at Florida State University, "Merleau-Ponty In and Out of Film Theory" at

Barnard College, "France 1958: Responses to a Legacy of Torture" at the University of New Mexico, "The Politics of the New Wave" at a roundtable at New York University, "André Bazin, Rhétorique et émotion" at Université Paris Diderot and "Film noir and the Right to Silence" at Columbia's Maison Française.

CAROLINE WEBER'S latest book, "Queen of Fashion," has now appeared in several editions and translations in Europe and South America. She will teach the course "Love Sex/Gender, Modern French Culture" in Spring 2009 at Columbia.

THE BOOK CLUB AT MAISON FRANÇAISE

Eight books were presented at the monthly meetings of the Book Club while an enthusiastic audience appreciated the expertise that members of the faculty brought in their discussion of the readings. Phil Watts presented Modiano's "La Place de l'Etoile" and Madeleine Dobie presented Yasmina Khadra's "Les Hirondelles de Kaboul" while two recent literary successes were discussed by Jason Earle ("Ravel" by Jean Echenoz) and Annelie Curulla ("Trois jours chez ma mere" by Francois Weyergans). Isabelle Coitoux contributed to the rediscovery of a 1924 novel, "Mes Amis" by Emmanuel Bove and a Canadian journalist, Monique Durand, talked about her own novel, "La femme du peintre". Simone Weil came for Nemirovsky's "Suite Française" and Kaiama Glover, of Barnard, loaned her expertise to the reading of Chamoiseau's "Texaco".

—Daniele Lasser
Coordinator

UNDERGRADUATE LIFE AT REID HALL, PARIS



Reid Hall Students' Thanksgiving Dinner, Paris 2007

The day I decided to come to Columbia, I already knew that I wanted to major in French and would spend my junior year studying abroad in Paris. Last year, when I finally arrived in the City of Lights to attend the Reid Hall program, I fell in love. Living in the 7th arrondissement, I was about a 10 minute walk from Montparnasse and Reid Hall, or about 15 minutes in the other direction from the Tour Eiffel, which I would often watch sparkle at night. I took classes primarily at l'Université de Paris VII, and became enamored with the study of oral literature, writing my senior thesis on Algerian fairy tales. With the help of the wonderful Christine Babef, Reid Hall administrator, the other Columbia students and I were able to attend numerous cultural events throughout the year: plays, concerts, museum exhibitions, activities organized with French student groups, and even take trips to other French cities. In addition to my classes, I also spent seven months teaching English as an *assistante* in a French elementary school. Though I was sad to leave Paris at the end of May, I am enjoying my last year at Columbia by taking graduate classes in the French department towards a Master's. I have applied for a Fulbright fellowship and hope to return to Paris next year to study the transmission of oral tradition in Algerian immigrant families.

—Allison Grant, CC'09

Please provide your addition to the next "Alumni News" feature by emailing, bydl@columbia.edu. For information on the Department or the graduate program, please write to or call the Department of French and Romance Philology, 515 Philosophy Hall, Mail Code 4902, 1150 Amsterdam Avenue, Columbia University, New York, NY 10027, tel. (212) 854-2500; or contact the Admissions Office of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, 107 Low Library, Columbia University, New York, NY 10027, tel. (212) 854-4737. You may also visit the Department's website: www.columbia.edu/cu/french.

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