

FLL



News and Views from Purdue

Newsletter of the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures Purdue University Vol. 6 (August 2001)

From the Head

Dear Friends of FLL,

We have completed another successful year in the department with very many accomplishments by our faculty and students. You will find some of them highlighted in this newsletter. Particularly I want to mention how pleased I am that four of our professors were promoted—two received tenure with promotion to associate professor and two were promoted to the rank of professor. Recent additions to our faculty enrich us all: Suzie Suriam, assistant professor in French, and Antonio Tillis, assistant professor in Spanish and African American Studies, and Howard Grabois, assistant professor in Spanish linguistics.

This spring we named Nicholas C. Vorhees as the first recipient of the Godeke Study Abroad Merit Scholarship. A German and management major, Nick will spend one year with our Junior Year Abroad program at the University of Freiburg, Germany. He embraces this opportunity with great enthusiasm and gratitude. In this newsletter, please read all about the new FLL Scholarship in Francophone Studies just established thanks to the very generous donations of Eric and Paul Benhamou. We are grateful indeed for this magnificent gesture.

The financial resources many of you are providing mean so much to our students. Your support makes a real difference in the lives of these talented and deserving individuals. Thank you so much for your generosity.

Two of our longtime colleagues have retired at the end of this academic year. Please join me in congratulating Ingeborg Hinderschiedt as she begins a new era as Professor Emerita of German and Leon Titche who now is Professor Emeritus of German. They both taught countless undergraduate and graduate students who will remember them fondly. Fortunately neither is leaving the community so we will continue to profit from their wisdom, as they drop by Stanley Coulter now and then.

Please let us hear from you. We really enjoy your letters, e-mail, and phone calls. And, of course, we so appreciate your continued support. Please return for a visit.

Christiane E. Keck

**Christiane E. Keck, FLL Head
and Professor of German**



Dr. Wei Hong, Honorable Ruixing Wei, Dr. Christiane E. Keck, and Dr. Bo Jiang in Stanley Coulter Hall

Head Christiane E. Keck
Asst. Head..... Allen G. Wood
Section Chairs:
Chinese & Japanese Daniel Hsieh
Classics & Italian.....Keith M. Dickson
French Allen G. Wood
German Herbert Rowland
Spanish & Portuguese ... David A. Flory

IN THIS ISSUE

- From the Head 1
- Promotions 2
- New Faculty 2
- Awards & Appointments 3
- Conferences 4
- Activities in the Languages 5
- FLL Abroad 8
- Students Abroad 9
- Highlights 10
- Alumni News 11
- Gifts Received 14
- New Scholarship 15



Promotions

Our congratulations go to the following faculty members who received promotions effective August 2001:

To professor:
Robert Hammond, Spanish
Kazumi Hatasa, Japanese

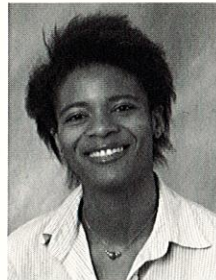
To associate professor with tenure:
María Cooks, Spanish
Caroline Grace, French

New Faculty

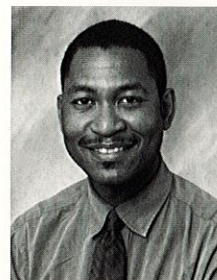
Three new faculty members joined us as assistant professors.

Howard B. Grabois (Spanish) received his PhD from Cornell University. His research interests include second language learning and pedagogy, sociocultural theory, and Spanish linguistics. (Photo not available)

Suzie Suriam (French) received her PhD in French studies from the University of Montreal, Canada. Her research interests include Francophone theater and literature(s), French theater, African studies, and film studies.



Antonio Tillis (Spanish and African American Studies) received his PhD from the University of Missouri-Columbia. His research interests include Latin American literature, Afro-Hispanic literature, literature of the African Diaspora, and post-colonial theory.



Awards, Scholarships & Special Appointments

Undergraduate Student Awards: Dean's Scholars 2000-2001

Paul Butler, Spanish
Bryan Kelsey, German
Camille Leaman, Spanish

Association of Friends of French Awards for 2000-2001

Purdue Junior Year Abroad program, Montpellier, France:
Raquel Budimir
Kathryn Chandler

Association of Friends of French Awards for 2001-2002

Purdue Junior Year Abroad program, Montpellier, France:
Marcella Boynton
Mauricio De Gortari
Tia Hardy
Elizabeth Weaver

Martinique summer program:
Tricey Calunda Wilks

Godeke Study Abroad Merit Scholarship 2001

Nicholas C. Vorhees, who will study in Freiburg, Germany for the 2001-2002 academic year.

Outstanding Undergraduate Students 2000-2001

Outstanding Senior
Benjamin J. Hasse, majors in Spanish and forestry
Academic Excellence
Isabella Lucier, major in French
Erica Nathan, major in Spanish secondary education

SLA Dean's Ambassadors, 2000-2001

Megan Finnerty (junior), major in journalism, minor in French
Christine Haskell (senior), majors in theater technology and English, minors in German and management
Binika Henderson (sophomore), major in psychology, minors in Spanish, and organizational leadership and supervision
Ruth Jewett (senior), major in history, minors in French and medieval studies
Rachel Wehrspann (senior), major in journalism, minors in French, English, and history
Kathryn Zuk (sophomore), major in Spanish

2nd Annual Purdue Study Abroad Essay Contest

1st place: Christine Haskell (senior), majors in theater technology and English, minors in German and management
2nd place: Amy Kallenberger (senior), major in dietetic health/fitness/nutrition
3rd place: Erica Nathan (senior), major in Spanish secondary education

Thayer Scholarship 2001-2002

Kathryn D. Zuk, Spanish major

FLL Undergraduates elected to Phi Beta Kappa

Class of 2001, initiated in March 2000:
Negin Almassi, French and biology
Eric Brustad, French and biology
Benjamin Hasse, Spanish and forestry
Janel Harrington Jensen, Spanish
David Warner Knight, Spanish
Class of 2001, initiated in March 2001:
Christie Cunningham, Spanish teaching
Emily Harrington, Spanish teaching
Amanda Martin, Spanish teaching
Lindsay Morgan, French and psychology
Erica Nathan, Spanish teaching
Jenny Snellenbarger, French and communication
Brooke Vesely, Spanish teaching

Graduate Student Awards: FLL Excellence in Teaching Award/ Teaching Assistant

Eduardo M. Valerio, Spanish

FLL Graduate Students/T.A.s Honored by Purdue University, 2000-2001

(sponsored by the Committee for the Education of Teaching Assistants)
Melissa A. Coburn, Italian
Isabel Jaén-Portillo, Spanish
Anne M-J. Violin, French

Friends of French Awards 2000-2001

Matthieu Chan Tsin, to present a paper at the International Congress for Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, MI, May 4-6, 2001
Sulagna Mishra, to give a paper at the Annual Colloquium on Romance Languages and Literatures at the University of Cincinnati, May 2001
Anne M-J. Violin, to attend the MLA in Washington, DC, December 2000, and to give a paper at the Annual Meeting of the Association for Language Studies at the Université Laval, summer 2000
Juan Wang, to attend the 2001 summer program in Martinique

Our Mission Statement

The intrinsic mission of the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures is to promote international understanding while ensuring students the best foreign language education we can provide.

Ways our students will use their language skills:

- as teachers and translators of diverse languages
- as employees of multi-national companies
- as diplomatic and business leaders in international trade
- as scholars and researchers of foreign literatures and cultures in a worldwide academic network
- as vital workers in foreign aid service programs
- as volunteers in their communities, giving a voice to someone in need.

Their skills and cultural awareness will traverse boundaries and borders and help create a true global community for the future.

Grenoble Exchange Student for 2000–2001
Caroline Peltey came to Purdue to teach.

Montpellier Exchange Student for 2000–2001

Céline Artal came to Purdue to teach.

Purdue Research Foundation (PRF) Annual Awards, 2001–2002

Neysa Figueroa/Professor Robert Hammond, “Expressing Language Attitudes: Judgments of Spanish Dialectal Differences.”

Natasa Momcilovic/Professor Mariko Moroishi, “A Sociolinguistic Analysis of Madrid Spanish.”

PRF Annual Renewal Awards for 2001–2002

Melissa Coburn/Professor Benjamin Lawton, Comparative Literature

Tony Macheak/Professor Becky Brown, French
María Luisa Torres/Professor Ana Gómez-Bravo, Comparative Literature

Hiroshi Tsuchiya/Professor Eiji Sekine, Comparative Literature

PRF Research Grants for Summer 2001

Samuel Francis, Spanish
Carolina Latorre, Spanish
Isabel Jaén-Portillo, Spanish
Alan Taylor, French

Diplom Wirtschaftsdeutsch

Chengya Wang received the Diplom Wirtschaftsdeutsch after successfully passing the rigorous **Prüfung Wirtschaftsdeutsch International** (an international examination certifying the ability to function in German in business settings at the management level).

Faculty Awards:

FLL Excellence in Teaching Award

Lecturer/Instructor/Visiting Assistant Professor category for 2000–2001:

Amy J. Coutts, Spanish

Other Awards:

Keith Dickson (Classics), Purdue University Faculty Program of Study in a Second Discipline Grant for 2001–2002, to pursue a year of pre-med training for his research on ancient Western medicine

Robert Freeman (HSSE librarian and bibliographer for FLL), the John H. Moriarty Award for Excellence in Library Service

Wei Hong (Chinese), Purdue’s Teaching for Tomorrow Award, May 2000

John Kirby (Classics), a fellowship at Purdue’s Center for Humanistic Studies, for the 2001 spring semester

Patrice Rankine (Classics), a Woodrow Wilson minority fellowship for the 2001–2002 academic year

Antonio D. Tillis (Spanish), 2000–2001 Scholar-in-Residence at the Institute for Languages and Literatures of the African Diaspora, at the University of Missouri-Columbia

Conferences

The Twelfth Annual Purdue Conference on Romance Languages, Literatures, and Film was held on campus October 12–14, 2000. Over seventy papers were presented by American and international scholars. Highlights included:

A special presentation of “Theater as Politics: The Performances of Marco Paolini,” with Franco Nasi, from the University of Chicago, presenting “Raccontare una tragedia: Vajont di Marco Paolini,” and Christina Perissinotto, from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, presenting “Polo, Paolini e Venezia: riflessioni lagunari.”

The keynote address, “Galileo and the Culture of His Times,” was given by Dava Sobel, award-winning writer and former *New York Times* science reporter. Her book, *Longitude*, became an international best seller, garnering several prestigious awards, and a PBS NOVA documentary adaptation. Ms. Sobel gave a fascinating account in her address of the life and culture of Galileo and his relationship with his daughter, Suor Maria Celeste, a Poor Clare nun. Apart from four trips to Italy to research her latest book, *Galileo’s Daughter*, Ms. Sobel translated more than 120 letters from Suor Maria Celeste to her father that revealed a loving, but also surprisingly informed intellectual relationship. Among other honors, *Galileo’s Daughter* was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize in biography.

The Purdue Studies in Romance Literatures Author Recognition Reception honored all twenty-three authors



PSRL authors Deborah Lesko Baker, Dale J. Pratt, Antony Higgins, Robert T. Corum, Jr., María Pilar Rodríguez, and Ada Testaferri

who have published with the series. Six authors attended the reception: Antony Higgins, *Constructing the “Criollo” Archive: Subjects of Knowledge in the “Bibliotheca Mexicana” and the “Rusticatio Mexicana”* (2000); Ada Testaferri, ed., *The Pleasure of Writing: Critical Essays on Dacia Maraini* (2000); Dale J. Pratt, *Signs of Science: Literature, Science, and Spanish Modernity since 1868* (2001); María Pilar Rodríguez, *Vidas im/proprias: transformaciones del sujeto femenino en la narrativa española contemporánea* (2000); Robert T. Corum, Jr., *Reading Boileau: An Integrative Study of the Early “Satires”* (1998); and Deborah Lesko Baker, *The Subject of Desire: Petrarchan Poetics and the Female Voice in Louise Labé* (1996). Brief presentations of these authors’ books were given by Mariselle Meléndez, Purdue University (Higgins); Graziella Parati, Dartmouth College (Testaferri); Allen Wood, Purdue, PSRL editor for French (Corum and Baker); Howard Mancing, Purdue, PSRL editor for Spanish (Pratt and Rodríguez). Floyd Merrell, series editor and editor for Spanish, chaired the presentations. Also hosting the reception were Jeanette Beer, editor for French, and Paul Dixon, editor for Luso-Brazilian.

FLL and the Program in Comparative Literature sponsored the **Third Annual Graduate Student Symposium**, held in Stanley Coulter Hall March 2–3, 2001. Seventeen graduate students presented papers on themes of second language acquisition; gender, class, and racial themes in foreign language literatures; a cognitive approach to literary analysis; and the evolution and diversity of Romance languages. Organizing committee members Matthieu Chan Tsin (French) and Samuel Francis (Spanish) and conference chairs Isabel Castelao (Spanish), Claudia Hoffmann, Deborah Szillat (German), Nikolay Traykov (Spanish), and Anne M-J. Violin (French) are to be congratulated for an exceptional conference that truly reflects the talent, scholarship, and hard work of our FLL graduate students. The conference committee also publishes a bound publication of the conference papers.

Purdue University hosted the **Twenty-Fifth Annual Meeting of the Semiotic Society of America**, celebrating “Sebeok’s Century,” September 28–October 1, 2000. Thomas A. Sebeok, Distinguished Professor Emeritus and Senior Fellow, School of Information Sciences, Indiana University, gave the plenary presentation, “The King of Lydia, The Thane of Cawdor, and the Emperor of Ice-Cream.” Other highlights included a symposium celebrating twenty years of linguistics at Purdue, and honoring Purdue professor of English Victor Raskin, for his directorship; the presidential address, “The Civil War Never Happened,” by President William Pencak; and “Capoeira!” a unique Afro-Brazilian performance art that blends rhythm and dance, fight, play, percussion instruments, song, religion, and life. Floyd Merrell (Spanish) was the conference’s program chair.

Activities in the Languages

Chinese and Japanese: Department of Education of China Gives Books to Purdue University

On behalf of China’s Department of Education, the Honorable Ruixing Wei, Consul General of the People’s Republic of China in Chicago, presented more than 450 books and videotapes to Purdue University on December 6, 2000. The presentation took place in the Board of Trustees’ Room at the university. Attending the ceremony were Purdue’s president, Dr. Martin C. Jischke, Emily R. Mobley, dean of Libraries, Dr. Christiane E. Keck, head of the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures, and Dr. Bo Jiang, Consul of the Educational Section of the Consulate and Chinese scholars.

This important and valuable collection contains some of China’s most contemporary publications, many of the books published for the first time. There are books on culture, history, politics, the economy, language learning and teaching, as well as encyclopedic works. At the ceremony, Consul Wei and President Jischke both gave speeches. Consul Wei emphasized that Chinese history and culture, developed in the course of five thousand years, shaped Chinese lifestyles, values, and social developments. China’s



Dr. Martin C. Jischke, Mr. Jun Fang, Dean Emily R. Mobley, and Dr. Christiane E. Keck

rich culture and traditions belong to, and should be shared with, the rest of the world. Through these books, faculty, students, and other readers in the Purdue community will get a better understanding of China’s past, present, and future. Consul Wei added that more and more Chinese students and scholars are studying and working at Purdue, and that Purdue’s scholarly exchanges with Chinese higher institutions are steadily growing. Such exchanges greatly contribute to the healthy development of US-China relations. Consul Wei congratulated Dr. Jischke on his appointment as Purdue’s tenth president, and officially invited him to visit China.

President Jischke thanked Consul Wei and China's Department of Education for the gift of the books. He said that the majority of international students at Purdue are from China, and that these students are a bridge between the US and China, bringing mutual understanding between the two countries.

(A news clip from *The People's Daily*, overseas edition, 12/6/2000, translated by Wei Hong.)

Mariko Moroishi, assistant professor of Japanese, received a teaching material grant from the Japan Foundation that provided Japanese textbooks, pedagogy books, videos, and visual aids for FLL students, teaching assistants, and instructors of Japanese.

Classics and Italian: New Courses in Arabic

Beginning Fall 2001, Arabic 101–102 will be offered on a special two-track system:

Arabic 101 (ARAB 101.01.01) and Arabic 102 (ARAB 102.01.01) are designed for “true beginners” in the language—people who have had little or no prior experience of Standard Arabic. This group includes students who have never studied the language at all, and also those who may have some understanding of spoken Arabic but can neither speak it themselves nor read it.

Arabic 101A (ARAB 101A.01.01) and Arabic 102A (ARAB 102A.01.01) are designed for students who have had prior exposure to the Arabic language. This group includes students who have some ability to read or write, perhaps acquired through their study of the Qu'ran, but who have had little training in spoken Standard Arabic.

Classical Studies is now offering a new Latin major and minor. For more information on all courses offered in Arabic, Classics, Italian, and Hebrew, visit FLL's web page: www.sla.purdue.edu/fll

French:

The Association of Friends of French annually presents a scholarship of up to \$1,000.00 to an Indiana high school student majoring in French at Purdue. Applicants must have taken at least two years of high school French; demonstrate a proven interest in the French language and culture; and have a strong recommendation from their high school language teacher. AFF also awards travel scholarships to Purdue students accepted into the Montpellier, Rennes, or Québec program. For more information, contact: Professor Paul Benhamou.

PhD student in French **Matthieu Chan Tsin** received funding from the Association of Friends of French. He works with Professor Jeanette Beer. Such help and support can make a difference to young scholars, as Matthieu wrote.

I would like to thank “Les Amis du francais” for the award which greatly helped me to travel to Kalamazoo, MI

for the International Medieval Congress at the beginning of the month. I was able to attend all the sessions of “De Re Militari” which were organized by the association bearing the same name, and also the Society for Military History. I was able to establish contacts with graduate students from other universities and to meet the authorities of the field, namely Kelly De Vries and Bernard Bachrach.

Attending these sessions allowed me to overview what kind of research is done in the field and how it is conducted. I also realized that the literature value of historical writings is not taken into account when studied for historical purposes. In the future, I intend to explore this gap left by historians, and to write a paper about these aspects of historical writings which are left aside, and maybe to be able to show that sometimes texts were written with other objectives in mind than exposing facts.

Thank you very much for the grant,
Matthieu Chan Tsin.

New Programs and Courses:

This year was our first year implementing the new French major, which is more flexible and gives students more freedom to select their courses from among the language, culture, literature, and linguistics courses offered. In addition, every semester, the French section offers one or two topics courses in culture, linguistics, or literature.

For the 2001 spring semester, two new courses were offered: FR 380S Francophone Culture (Suzie Suriam) and FR 396T French for Play Performance (Sidney Pellissier).

On March 7, 2001, students in Sidney Pellissier's FR 396T French for Play Performance class gave a performance of poetic texts, “Beaux Textes de Baudelaire.” Students did solo and choral readings in French of poems and prose poems from Baudelaire's “Les fleurs du mal” (Flowers of evil). The event was held in Stanley Coulter 239.

The FR 396T students used the same venue for their next performance on April 18, 2001. *OFF-OFF-OFF-OFF*, a montage of four French absurdist farces, was performed in French with much body English and was fun for all who attended.

New French Software:

Working with the Purdue University Computing Center (PUCC), the French section has arranged for students to be able to use the spell-check in French when writing in the Mac and PC labs on campus, and the French-French dictionary *Le Petit Robert* on-line, which provides students with definitions, synonyms, verb conjugations, and much more. In PUCC Mac labs, students can also use *Le Correcteur*, a French writing program that identifies many grammatical errors and provides rules helpful in language constructions.

German:

We will miss our longtime colleagues **Ingeborg Hinderschiedt** and **Leon Titcher**, who retired recently as Professor Emerita of German, and Professor Emeritus of German, respectively. They both taught a large number of undergraduate and graduate students, and they will join us, we know, in wishing both professors a long and happy retirement.

We say goodbye and best wishes also to **Jay Rosellini**, professor of German, who retired from Purdue, but will be teaching at Suffolk University in Boston, and **Zsuzsanna Ittzes**, assistant professor of German, who has taken a new position at the University of Texas in Austin.

Özlem Ögut, who received her PhD in Comparative Literature (August 1999) with emphasis on German, received an offer from the renowned Bosphorus University in Turkey, and **Soheila Ghaussy**, who also received a doctorate in Comparative Literature (May 2001) with German as one of her languages, is now teaching at the Baltimore Institute College of Art, in Baltimore, Maryland.

Dean's Freshman Scholar **Bryan Kelsey** declared his major as German and thus joins the other 16 majors.

In the spring, the German section hosted noted German filmmaker Ula Stöckl for two very informative and provocative presentations, including the showing of two of her award-winning films.

The German Club has been particularly active this year with weekly programs for undergraduate and graduate students.

Russian:

Russian minors have doubled over the year due to the faculty's recruitment efforts for Russian 101, and helping students to combine a Russian minor with their major or even pursue a double major. These new enthusiastic and energetic students are creating a “Russian” presence on campus. They have reinvigorated the Russian Club, which now boasts 40 members and has 50 names on its list server. The club meets every two weeks, and this April saw the return of the traditional annual Russian Banquet, which always draws a large gathering of students, friends, and parents.

Today's students of Russian are as varied and motivated as ever. Below, some of the students presently enrolled in Russian give reasons for their choosing to study the language:

I study Russian because I want to work with the space program one day. Right now, English and Russian are the languages of space.

Lindsay TRAWICK (RUSS 202)

I enrolled in Russian because I have never taken a foreign language and being at Purdue I had this opportunity. This turned out to be a most practical, useful and, yes, fun class. It is now my favorite. To top it all off, my grandma said that now I will know what Putin is saying when he is on TV. All right!

John SHELTON (RUSS 102)

I am taking Russian because I've always been interested in Russia and its people. To me the language is beautiful, and I'm very happy to finally be in a Russian class.

Sarah HAMILTON (RUSS 102)

I became interested in Russian after reading books by Tom Clancey. I found that learning a new alphabet was easier than I thought it would be. The small classes definitely helped me learn better. I enjoy Russian.

David JOHNSON (RUSS 202)

I decided to study Russian because I am interested in Russian literature. I hope to be able to read and write about Russian literature in Russian.

Cindy KONRAD (RUSS 202)

I feel that my Russian studies have exposed me to a fascinating culture, and sparked an interest in a language, which will become increasingly important in the 21st century.

Anton VANDER ZEE (RUSS 342)

Spanish and Portuguese:

Foreign Language Education graduate student **Marcela Rodríguez de van Olphen** presented her work with WebCT software at the Computer Assisted Language Instruction Conference in Orlando, FL on March 17, 2001. She made another similar presentation for the local chapter of Phi Delta Kappa in January 2001. Marcela coordinated use of WebCT for a foreign language methods course. The software is now available in Spanish. For a detailed description of WebCT and a free sample, see the site at www.webct.com.

Congratulations to:

Theresa Rosenhagen (PhD May 1999), who has accepted a job at Middle Tennessee State University.

Mary Ilu Altman (PhD May 1999), who was recently named Minority Recruitment Director at Ivy Technical College in Lafayette, IN.

Floyd Merrell had four books published during the past year, and taught a graduate seminar in Brazil again this summer, as he has for the past decade.

In Portuguese, **Paul Dixon** recently finished teaching an intensive summer course on the short stories of Machado de Assis at the Catholic University of Rio Grande do Sul in Porto Alegre, Brazil. The course involved three hours of class for ten days, and there were 23 students.

FLL Abroad

Becky Brown (French) served as resident director of the CIC 2000 summer program in Québec, Canada.

Alan Garfinkel (Spanish) visited the School of English Language Communication, Beijing Foreign Studies University, Beijing P.R. China, as a foreign expert, March through May 2000 (see below).

John Kirby (Classics) taught Classical Mythology (CLCS 335 O) and directed Purdue's SA program at Oriel College, Oxford, summer 2000.

Patrice Rankine (Classics) taught Classical Mythology (CLCS 335 C) at Cambridge University, summer 2000.

Eiji Sekine (Japanese) taught an intensive graduate seminar on US-Japan Comparative Literature, at Josai International University, Tokyo, July, 2000.

Madrid, Spain

Patricia Hart (Spanish) recently returned from Madrid, following a "triple-header" stint of directing study abroad programs. The first group of fifty-nine students studied for the entire academic year at Universidad Complutense de Madrid and included people from Purdue, Indiana University, and the University of Wisconsin. New students arrived in January, bringing the number to seventy-five. Just as grades were submitted for those students, more arrived for the first-ever Purdue-Madrid summer program. Seven Purdue students extensively visited sites of historical, archeological, and artistic importance throughout southern Spain while polishing their spoken and written Spanish. High points for the summer group included seeing the Mexican rock group Maná live, attending a miracle play performed in the courtyard of the fifteenth-century Universidad de Alcalá de Henares (including having coffee with the director), viewing flamenco and theater, and even accompanying Professor Hart when she participated in the Spanish version of *Who Wants to Be a Millionaire?* (*¿Quieres Ser Millionario?*). Although Hart didn't win any money, the students enjoyed seeing the TeleCinco studios, cheering from the studio audience, and meeting the Spanish "Regis," Carlos Sobera, in person.

Spanish Faculty Member Teaches in Beijing

Beijing Foreign Studies University does teach Spanish, but that is not why Alan Garfinkel, Purdue University professor of Spanish and education, decided to spend nine weeks of his recent sabbatical in China. As the first exchange scholar with Purdue/BFSU's program, he was invited with his wife, Sonya, to lecture to BFSU's School of English Language Communication's highly proficient students of English, giving them an opportunity to interact with native speakers of English on a variety of topics. Having never been to Asia, the Garfinkels headed for BFSU to teach the short course they designed, "We Are Americans. Who Are We?" Topics of the course included work, family, affiliations with places of worship and state, and forms of entertainment.

"It was impressive to see how much more Chinese students know about America than American students know about China," says Professor Garfinkel, who made contact with several Chinese students wanting to pursue graduate level education in the U.S.A.

BFSU Dean Visits Purdue

Zhu Weifang, one of BFSU's deans of the School of English Language Communication, visited Purdue between February 4 and February 14, 2001. She would like to recruit practicing American teachers (of nearly any subject) who are willing to spend six months to a year in China. Recruits will receive airfare to and from China, an apartment, and an ample food allowance. Interested teachers can contact Dean Zhu Weifang by fax at 011-8610-6846-4412. Such an opportunity will not only help many wonderful Chinese students, but also satisfy a number of educational needs and requirements for American applicants.



Chinese students at BFSU.

Our Students Abroad

Peter Sandrian plans to graduate in December 2003 with a BS in Mechanical Engineering.

As an eleven year old entering the sixth grade, I had a pretty narrow view of the world. My knowledge and understanding of global affairs has increased and changed dramatically, partly because of increased maturity, but mainly because I studied a foreign language.

My French teacher from sixth through eighth grade was a fascinating woman named Mme. Rich, a French woman who grew up in a town close to the German border. Mme. Rich did not simply instruct my class on the rules of French speech and grammar. She amazed us with occasional stories of her flight from the Nazis, and more frequent tales of her youthful days on the ski slopes of the Alps. Our ears perked up when Mme. Rich informed us that French youths are not expected to have jobs, and that Europeans take much more vacation time than Americans generally do. She exposed us to subtleties of life I had never imagined, and sparked my interest in speaking to people from other countries about their cultures.

All of my foreign language teachers have been serious about getting students interested in the advantages of other cultures. During high school, my foreign language teachers led summer tours in Europe and taught about life in far-away lands, but that only did so much. At Purdue University, I once again encountered teachers who give first-hand accounts of life in strange and fantastic settings. Ms. Inga Rost is more than willing to recount her experiences in divided Germany, where one had to cross Cold War enemy territory in order to reach West Berlin. M. Anatole Balma tells fascinating stories about the use of magic in Burkina Faso, and Ms. Deborah Szillat speaks of modern-day urban districts that are closed off to automobiles, both of which Americans have trouble imagining. Our US media generally focus on what happens in world events, rather than how or why. It is quite conceivable that an American without direct exposure to people from other cultures could walk through life unaware that other countries are so different.

Studying a foreign language enhances a person's opportunities for study and travel abroad. I will be participating in an eleven-month exchange called the Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange for Young Professionals (CBYX). I have been away from the continent of North America only once, to go to Puerto Rico, but in August 2001 I will head out to Germany for nearly a year. The exchange will certainly be an adventure. It consists of two months of intensive German-language training, four months in a university, and five months of work as an intern. I will spend August and September, in Saarbrücken, Germany, and by mid-September will know the location of my university.

In all likelihood, I will live in a family household to get exposure to German family life, the business world, and

student culture. Such an experience must lead to a deeper understanding of the German people, which will encourage me to think more creatively about my own culture and increase my value in the business world. Participants in CBYX can expect to make friends and business contacts during the year in Germany, which lends distinct advantages later in life. Traveling to another country, Germany, should teach me to be flexible, insightful, and independent, and it should be a lot of fun. My foreign language classes at Purdue University will definitely help me enjoy the experience.

Erica Wright from Lowell, Indiana, will graduate in August 2001 with a double major in Spanish and general communications.



Erica Wright (at right), with roommate Renee Bender and Bert, at Lake Chapala near Guadalajara, Mexico.

During my freshman year at Purdue, and the first semester of my sophomore year, I was always seeing fliers and hearing about study abroad, but never thought that I could actually do it. It would really take some guts to do something like that, I thought. Well, somewhere in those semesters before my junior year, I found some guts and applied. I decided to study in Guadalajara, Mexico, as I had heard some great things about the city and knew it wasn't far from Puerto Vallarta, where I had vacationed before. It was definitely the best experience

of my life. I met so many amazing people I'm still in touch with.

One of the best things to come out of my Guadalajara experience was the canine love of my life, Bert. A friend gave him to me. I didn't really want him at first...he was shy and very muddy and stinky. But, after a few hours and a bath, we became inseparable. He went everywhere with me, in taxis, on buses, all over the place. All of my neighbors knew us and loved to play with him. However, all of our traveling around the city together did not prepare us for the trip home from Mexico. It was too hot for Bert to fly home with me so we had to take a bus. It was the longest ride of my life. We left Guadalajara on a Friday evening and finally got to Chicago Sunday night. It was the longest weekend of my life. Still, we made it and I would do it over again. Bert made the trip just fine (with the help of a few puppy tranquilizers), and is loving life as an immigrant!

The other great benefit of my Mexican experience was the incredible amount of things I learned there about the culture and language. I left here very unsure of my Spanish speaking abilities and still thinking in English. Now I dream in Spanish sometimes and even catch myself taking notes in

Spanish in some of my classes. I have to warn people that my notes are in Spanglish if they ask to borrow them. I love being able to speak Spanish. It makes me stand out. One of the people who really encouraged me to continue studying Spanish and to go abroad was Dr. Alan Garfinkel. He really believed that I could do it and helped me believe the same.

I am applying for Officer Training School for the United States Air Force, in either Intelligence or Public Affairs. Living in Mexico gave me a taste for traveling and I think the Air Force is a great way to do that and get paid for it.

Some Highlights from the Past Year

Undergraduate Majors:

From May 2000 to May 2001, 52 students graduated with an FLL major. Thirty-nine were FLL single majors; 7 were double FLL majors (i.e., a FLL major plus one or two other Liberal Arts majors = 1 BA); and 6 earned dual degrees (i.e., a BA with FLL major plus a BS with another major, like engineering or computer science). Thirty-six of these graduates participated in study abroad programs.

Graduate Degrees Awarded:

May 2000:

Heidi Bostic	PhD French
Martina Donnermair	MA German
Samuel Francis	MA Spanish
Sarah Hines	MA French
Claudia Pimental	MA Spanish
Joseph Rockelmann	MA German
Julien Simon	MA Spanish
Matthieu Chan Tsin	MA French
Soccoro Zaragoza	MA Spanish

August 2000:

Patrick Kiley	PhD Comparative Literature
---------------	----------------------------

December 2000:

Rachel Bauer	MA Spanish
Elizabeth Birkinshaw	MA Spanish
James Bukari	MA French
Maryca Castellones	MA Spanish
Yolanda Gamboa	PhD Spanish
Maria Kotsaftis	PhD Comparative Literature
Youngmi Lee	MA Comparative Literature
Celia Mantinha	MA Comparative Literature
Char Prieto	PhD Spanish
Julie Schaefer	MA German
Mei Zhu	MA Comparative Literature

May 2001:

Dolores Alcaide-Ramirez	MA Spanish
Jennifer Blauw Haan	MA German
Silvia Boero	MA Comparative Literature
Rosa Maria Boisset	MA Spanish
Charles Butler	MA Spanish
Isabel Castela	MA Comparative Literature
Soheila Ghaussey	PhD Comparative Literature
Frédérique Grim	MA French
Lei Jin	MA Comparative Literature
Catherine Kramer	MA French
Silvia Mayayo	MA Spanish
Monica Morales	PhD Spanish
Paul Streufert	PhD Comparative Literature
Lucero Tenorio-Gavin	PhD Spanish
Ricard Viñas i de Puig	MA Spanish
Shunzhu Wang	PhD Comparative Literature

August 2001:

Kristi Hislope	PhD Spanish
Anne M-J. Violin	PhD French
Laura L. Wilson	PhD German
Chengya Wang	MA German

2000–2001 FLL PhD Graduates' Academic Job Positions After Graduating:

Yolanda Gamboa (Spanish), Florida Atlantic University
 Bonnie Gasior (Spanish), California State University—Long Beach
 Kristi Hislope (Spanish), North Georgia College & State University, Dahlonega, Georgia
 Monica Morales (Spanish), Butler University
 Char Prieto (Spanish), Valparaiso University
 Lucero Tenorio-Gavin (Spanish), Oklahoma State University
 Anne M-J. Violin (French), Michigan State University

FLL Homecoming

An FLL Open House was held in Stanley Coulter Hall on Saturday, September 23, 2000, as part of Purdue's Homecoming Celebrations.

FLL Majors and Minors Party

The annual dinner for FLL majors and minors, sponsored by the Undergraduate Committee, was well attended on September 24, 2000. The event in the Walter Staaks Lounge in SC brought FLL majors, minors, and other prospective students together with faculty and instructors for fun, food, and prizes.

Soirée Crêpes

The French Club held a popular crêpes evening October 28, 2000, with over fifty people attending. Club president Frédérique Grim prepared the crêpes in advance, and she and other members of the French Club worked hard to make the evening a great success.

Faculty Publications 2000–2001

In the past year our faculty published 7 CD-ROMs, videos and software, and 14 books, had another 8 books accepted for publication, produced 27 book chapters, authored 60 refereed articles, wrote 23 reviews, and gave 91 conference presentations. For titles to books, book chapters, and articles, see "Recent Faculty Publications" on our FLL web site at: <http://www.sla.purdue.edu/fll>

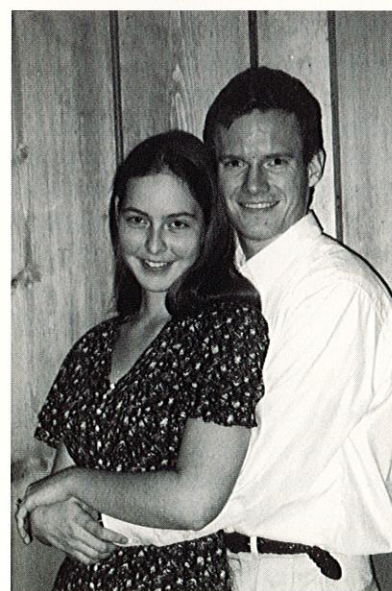
PSRL Book Wins Prize

Constructing the "Criollo" Archive: Subjects of Knowledge in the "Bibliotheca Mexicana" and the "Rusticatio Mexicana," by Antony Higgins (West Lafayette, IN: Purdue UP, 2000), volume 21 in the Purdue Studies in Romance Literatures series, was awarded the A. B. Thomas Award for the best scholarly book for the year 2000 by the Southeastern Council of Latin American Studies.

Two Weddings



Professor Mariko Moroishi (Japanese) married Dr. Alexander Wei, a professor in the Department of Chemistry, on June 10, 2001, in Malibu, California. Mariko changed her name to Dr. Mariko M. Wei after her marriage. Several faculty members who attended the wedding commented on how beautiful the ceremony was.



FLL graduate student Alan Taylor (French) married Mary Ade, a Purdue undergraduate student in biochemistry, on December 21, 2000, in Salt Lake City, Utah. Alan says that Mary, whom he describes as very optimistic and fun loving, hopes to graduate in May 2002. Alan, whose research specialty is glossing and reading comprehension, hopes to complete his studies at the same time.

Alumni News

We would love to hear from you and share your news with our readers. Here are some highlights from our alums:

Distinguished Alumna for 2001

The SLA Alumni Board named **Barbara Watts** (BA with distinction, French, 1968) one of Purdue University's School of Liberal Arts 2001 Distinguished Alumni. Dr. Watts received the MEd degree in Guidance and Counseling in 1969 from the University of Cincinnati. In 1978, she received a JD from the University of Cincinnati's College of Law, where she now serves as the associate dean for academic affairs. Specializing in women's issues, she was the chief architect of the nation's first joint juris doctorate and master of women's studies program in 1995. Winner of many awards for her contributions to the study of sex discrimination and the law and legal drafting, Dr. Watts is active in many community services for children, seniors, and mediation. At Purdue, she was a member of Mortar Board, president of Panhellenic, and received the Flora Roberts Award for Most Outstanding Woman in her graduating class.



We heard from:

Judy Cochley Birkel, who graduated from Purdue with a BSGM from Krannert and a minor in German. Judy told us that she went on the Hamburg Study Abroad Program during her junior year, then returned to Purdue in 1980–82 to get the courses necessary for her German teaching credential. She has taught German at Heritage Christian High School in Indianapolis, IN, for eight years, and for six of those years has also taught math. She took student groups to Germany in 1998 and 2000, but this summer went to Germany with her husband to celebrate their twentieth wedding anniversary (June 6), and to do a little scouting for future trips.

"Our trip this summer was wonderful. Berlin has changed so much since I was there in 1978 on the Hamburg program. We drove south, visiting Wittenberg and Buchenwald on the way to Mittenwald, in Alpine Germany, where we hiked, visited castles, and Hitler's Eagle's Nest in Berchtesgaden. A one-night stop in Wasserburg on Lake Constance was a highlight on the way to a friend's house in Hessen. Then it was on to the Rhine before we were off to London. We had a very relaxing and great time together."

Cynthia Hahn, PhD in French Literature, 1985

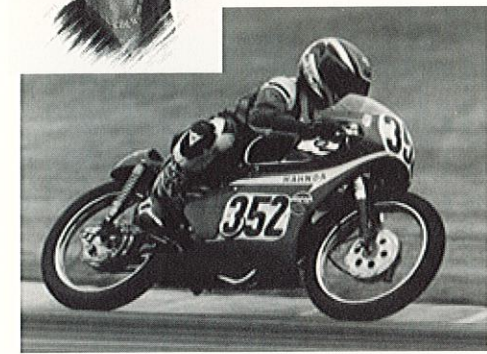
Currently chair of the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures and associate professor of French at Lake Forest College, Lake Forest, IL, Dr. Hahn was recently

elected secretary for the Chicago Area Translator's Association (CHICATA), and has published two translations of Francophone novels: *Wounding Words: A Woman's*

Journal in Tunisia, by Evelyne Accad (Heinemann, 1997); and *The Lost Song of a Rediscovered Country*, by Nouredine Aba, published in bilingual format by L'Harmattan (Paris, 1999).

Dr. Hahn has also been an avid historic motorcycle racer for the past

six years, taking third place in last season's national American Historic Racing Motorcycle Association (AHRMA) series in the "Masters of the Midwest" 200 Grand Prix Class. See her



web page: www.lfc.edu/academics/languages/hahn.html for photos.

Christy Korson Kehoe, BA in LA/Management, 1992 After reading the piece from Carmel High School German teacher Gene Kambs in FLL's 2000 newsletter, Christy sent us the following information:

I live in Texas now, and news from "home" is always good. I learned about the Purdue-Hamburg exchange program from Gene Kambs, my German teacher at Carmel High School in 1988, and stayed at the same Wohnheim as she had earlier, when I went on the program in the Purdue 1990/91 academic year. My German improved greatly overseas, although I was a little afraid of making errors so did not take full advantage of my time there with "the natives." Nevertheless, my language skills and study abroad have come into good use.

My dual degree and experience abroad gave me the edge in getting my first job at USF&G. I was lucky to find such a good position a few months after graduation as the job market was not very good at the time. I received higher starting pay than others in my training class because of my credentials.

Now I work for the Swiss company Winterthur International (Credit Suisse) as a property/casualty underwriter. We specialize in multi-national companies and heavy products liability. My time abroad and language skills again were a real asset in getting this position. Our company's official language is English, but we do receive correspondence in German. It is an exciting career and I enjoy the international flavor.

Last fall, my husband and I visited our former au pair's family in the Black Forest in Tiergarten, near Oberkirch in Germany. The family grows fruit for the local fruit co-op, and grapes for the Oberkirch wine label. Then we took a

train up the Rhine to Cologne to visit a friend who participated in the Hamburg program the same year I did. Our final destination on this trip was Switzerland, where I went to Winterthur for a few days of business. I spoke German quite a lot on this trip but found Swiss German difficult.

I've started my children, Aidan (5) and Moira (3), on the Muzzy German tapes, hoping this will spur some interest in language for them. I finally found Kuby's, a German restaurant and deli near Southern Methodist University, that makes fabulous wurst, and imports groceries and sweets.

Thank you for the warm memories of the Old Gold and Black.

Heather M. Shockney received her BA in May 1999, with majors in German and political science. She moved to Washington, DC, as a staff assistant to Indiana congressman Steve Buyer. In July 2000, Heather moved to Austin, TX to work on the Bush campaign. The following December she returned to Washington to work on the Presidential Inaugural Committee. Since January she has been at the Department of Defense, working in Air Force Legislative Affairs, and is now working on a White House Commission as a detailee from the Defense Department.

She told her former advisor, Dr. Marianne Gupta, FLL's academic advisor: "I just wanted you to know that even your most terrified advisees are able to find something. The future really isn't as scary on this side. You are welcome to share this message with any of your students who are beginning to panic about an upcoming graduation. It does all work out one way or another. Thank you for all your wise words and encouragement."

Heather would like to work more with her German major and is very interested in pursuing a master's degree in linguistics.

Theresa Vollmer Spurgeon graduated with a BA in German in 1971, and an MA in German in 1974. After graduation, Theresa went to Germany by herself on a one-way ticket and stayed for a year, taking classes at Hamburg University and working. She returned to Purdue and FLL to get her MA, then taught German and English for twelve years in Indianapolis. Since 1987, she has been teaching German and English at Spanish River Community High School in Boca Raton, FL. She has taught all levels of German, and has never had a student take the AP German exam who didn't pass.

"You and my professors in German at Purdue," she told Christiane Keck, FLL's head, and professor of German, "gave me an opportunity which I have always appreciated. I have tried to do my best to promote a love of German language and culture. I read the *FLL News and Views* and see that there are exciting things happening in the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures."

Linda Montandon Weaver works for the law firm of Clausen Miller PC in Chicago, IL. She earned a BA in Social Studies Education with a minor in Spanish from

Purdue in 1974, an MA in Spanish Literature from Purdue in 1981, and a JD from Notre Dame in 1987.

My Spanish degrees were recently put to the test. Last year, the Midwest Immigration and Human Rights Center here in Chicago asked me to represent a young couple from Colombia in a political asylum case. The couple had fled their homeland after persecution by paramilitary groups. They had owned a small grocery store in Tulua, and were falsely accused by the paramilitaries of being guerrilla sympathizers. The paramilitaries massacred the wife's aunt and uncle who worked part-time in their store, as a warning to the young couple that they had better disappear or else. The wife was five months pregnant, and the couple left their five-year-old daughter with relatives in another city, as they had almost no money and could not afford the airfare.

They spoke no English when they arrived in the USA, so I dusted off my 25-year-old Spanish degree. I was actually able to communicate quite well with them during the next year as we interviewed them, and gathered the documents we needed to prepare our case for trial. I did extensive research on the Internet, that included reading the Colombian newspapers in Spanish to find out the current activity of the paramilitaries in the couple's area of Colombia and throughout the country. In order for the couple to be granted asylum, we had to prove that they could not relocate safely to another part of Colombia.

We used official translators only occasionally, and during the crucial preparation immediately before trial, the translator did not show up so I had to act as a simultaneous translator while my partner practiced the courtroom examination with our clients. My Spanish was also useful during the trial, as I was able to correct the official court translator whose translation was not always perfect. When the judge announced that our clients were granted asylum, we all cried. It was a nerve-racking, but wonderful experience. We went through a lot with our clients—from the birth of their daughter in Chicago, to witnessing their civil marriage here in Cook County which formalized their Colombian common law marriage.

Was I happy I had a Spanish degree? You bet. My ability to speak Spanish was invaluable. This isn't the only time I have used it in the past three years. I have sought out ways to use it and served on the Board of the Office of Hispanic Ministries for the Diocese of Gary for a couple of years, and last February visited an educational living facility in Queretaro, Mexico, with my cousin, the bishop of Juneau, AK. We went there to check out the program since it had applied for funding from the bishops. I came back and managed to raise \$10,000 to send there. If any FLL students are interested in a wonderful volunteer experience for the summer, or for a week or two, I would be glad to send information.

While at Purdue, I participated in the Junior Year Abroad program in Spain and found that experience valuable for my resumé, and for giving me a broader perspective in the business world. I felt the experience was so

valuable that I insisted that my daughter, Sara, who graduated last year, study abroad too, although she went to Oxford with the Business/Management school.

Linda can be contacted by e-mail at: lweaver@clausen.com

John M. Zyck, Jr., MA in Spanish linguistics, 1999. John started last fall as a new assistant professor of Humanities at Lindenwood University in St. Charles, Missouri, just west of St. Louis. He is currently teaching Spanish 101-202, and is busy creating at least one course in Spanish linguistics. You can reach him at: jzyck@lindenwood.edu

Viva la Música

Elise Carr Sumner, who earned her BA in Spanish Education from Purdue in 1971, has produced a 28-song CD, *Viva la Música*, to help people learn Spanish. She wrote and sang the songs. Included is a booklet with lyrics in Spanish and English. The CD is available from Elise's web site: www.elisesumner.com. Elise teaches adult Spanish classes at the Anderson YWCA and in private lessons, and can be



contacted on e-mail at Sumner@teachers.org or elise@elisesumner.com.

In Memoriam

Mary E. (Betsy) Brooks, aged 76, in Madison, WI, March 31, 2001.

Dr. Brooks had served as department chairperson for Spanish and Portuguese at the University of Wisconsin. She received her BA from Purdue, and MA and PhD from the University of New Mexico. She held a pilot's license and was involved in many professional activities.

Special Thanks

With this newsletter, we say good-bye to Rita Rud, who has been the writer/editor of this newsletter since the 1996 issue. She compiled the text for this issue, but left to complete her MFA degree.

FLL gratefully acknowledges the School of Liberal Arts Alumni Board's support of an Alumni Small Grant Award toward the production and mailing costs of this newsletter.

Gifts Received in 2000–2001

Our grateful thanks to all the following friends and alumni, whose generous contributions have supported special events, educational activities, and development opportunities in our department.

Dr. Stephen R. Axley
Dr. & Mrs. Moshe Barash
Ms. Sharon S. Barnes
Ms. Kimberly J. Beard
Dr. Jeanette Beer
Dr. Paul Benhamou
Dr. & Mrs. Nihat Bilgutay
Mrs. Marilyn R. Bilsky
Dr. & Mrs. Channing Blickenstaff
Mr. & Mrs. Scott Bosecker
Dr. Thomas Broden
Dr. Becky Brown
Dr. & Mrs. Arthur Chandler
Dr. Bob Channon
Mrs. Terri R. Coke
Ms. Linda L. Conley
Mrs. Margarita L. Contreni
Dr. & Mrs. William Cramer
Mrs. Charlotte M. Cronauer
Mrs. Lisa A. Crosby
Ms. Zdenka Culiberg
Ms. Carol P. Demery
Ms. Janet Denham
Mrs. Martha E. Desmond
Mrs. Judith P. Dews
Dr. David Drasin
Dr. Erica J. Duggan
Dr. David Flory
Ms. Marina J. Forthofer
Dr. Atsushi Fukada
Mr. Eric E. Fulkerson
Ms. Pamela M. Furnace
Dr. Charles Ganelin
Dr. Alan Garfinkel
Dr. & Mrs. Alexander N. Gerritsen
Mr. Steven M. Godeke
Mrs. Sarah A. Goff
Mrs. Amanda C. Gosheff
Mr. Steven Mark Gregory
Ms. Linda Hardwick
Dr. Linda L. Harlow
Ms. Linda Hayes
Mr. & Mrs. John M. Helmreich
Ms. M. Brandy Hibbard
Dr. Ingeborg Hinderschiedt
Dr. Suzanne Hintz
Dr. Wei Hong
Ms. M. Gayle Horvatich
Dr. Daniel Hsieh

Dr. Janice L. Jaen
Ms. Kathy L. Johnson
Mrs. Barbara J. Kacmar
Dr. Christopher I. Kauffman
Dr. Christiane E. Keck
Mrs. Roberta Pantle Keck
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph K. Kraynak
Ms. Diane Lasic
Dr. Benjamin R. Lawton
Dr. Howard Mancing
Dr. Mariselle Meléndez
Dr. & Mrs. Floyd Merrell
Mr. Dennis M. Murphy
Mr. & Mrs. Daniel J. Newberry
Dr. Sidney Pellissier
Ms. Arleen L. Pogue
Mrs. Constance C. Quickle
Dr. Patrice Rankine
Dr. Nina M. Ray
Rebecca L. Reiniger
Dr. Eiji Sekine
Dr. & Mrs. Randall W. Sencaj
Dr. Deborah Houk Schocket
Dr. Tracy D. Sharpley-Whiting
Mrs. Heidi M. Skvarna
Dr. Walter Staaks
Ms. Linda L. Stanford
Ms. Terry Mitchell Strohm
Ms. Sally G. Swenson
Mr. Charles J. Switzer
Dr. Anthony Tamburri
Mrs. Suzanne S. Upton
Mrs. Rachel L. Vinson
Ms. Ann B. Weston
Dr. Erdmute White
Ms. Claudia L. Winkler
Dr. Elisabeth Greive Wittig
Dr. Allen Wood
Mrs. Kathleen S. Wynegar
Dr. & Mrs. Henry T. Yang
Ms. Jennifer J. Young

Please send alumni news and information to:

Joyce L. Detzner
Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures
1359 Stanley Coulter Hall
Purdue University
West Lafayette, IN 47907-1359
email: jdetzner@purdue.edu

New FLL Scholarship in Francophone Studies

The Juliette S. Benhamou Memorial Scholarship for Francophone Studies

This new and important scholarship for Francophone studies at Purdue University has been instigated and endowed by the late Juliette S. Benhamou's son and grandson, in her memory. It will be awarded to an outstanding student, with a genuine interest in Francophone studies, accepted or enrolled in a graduate program in French within the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures. The award of at least \$5000 will be provided in addition to a graduate assistantship that includes full tuition remission.



Juliette Sicsic Benhamou (1903-1979) was born to a Sephardic Jewish family in Tlemcen, Algeria. She married Albert Benhamou in 1928. Her husband passed away in 1938, leaving her to support their three sons (Guy, Georges, and Paul). She showed extraordinary devotion to her children, engaging in a variety of humble occupations, from seamstress to laundress, to ensure that they were well fed, clothed, and schooled during the difficult years of World War II. As each of her children graduated from high school, she encouraged them to go on to college, even though this required leaving home for France. All did so, and all returned to Algeria.

"During our childhood, my mother was our primary teacher and spiritual guide, and she gave us a solid foundation for our intellectual and moral development."

—Paul Benhamou

When Algeria became independent, Juliette Benhamou gave her household items to her Arab neighbors and, like French citizens throughout Algeria, left the country of her birth for the mainland she had never seen. In 1962, she settled in Grenoble, France, to be near her oldest son and the family that included her first grandchild, Eric Benhamou.

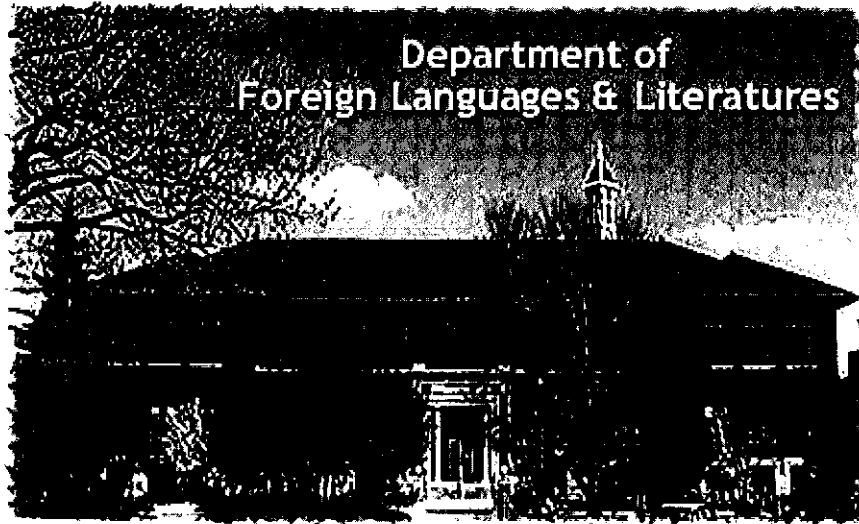
"My grandmother Juliette Benhamou, or Mamie, as I always called her, helped to raise me while my young parents worked to establish their first household in Algiers; and I was in almost daily contact with her until I came to the United States in 1976. She took pride in her family, her hometown, and her origins; and she believed that through hard work, love, and merit, we can, and should, improve our own condition and that of others."

She shared the little she had with her family, and neighbors, both Jews and non-Jews. This scholarship celebrates her personal qualities: her unstinting generosity, her devotion to family, and her grace in adversity. Not a week goes by that I do not think fondly, and with gratitude, of the human values she fostered in me, and that I, in turn, work to pass along to my own children."

—Eric Benhamou

Eric A. Benhamou, chairman and CEO of 3COM Corporation, is the principal benefactor of the Juliette S. Benhamou Scholarship. Paul Benhamou, associate professor of French, joined the Purdue faculty in 1970. Both were born in Algeria.

For further information about the scholarship and its application procedure, please call (765) 496-3841, or visit the French program Web page which can be found at www.sla.purdue.edu/fl/French



Please visit our web site at: <http://www.sla.purdue.edu/fl>

Dept. of Foreign Languages & Literatures
1359 Stanley Coulter Hall
Purdue University
West Lafayette, IN 47907-1359

Non-profit Organization U.S. Postage PAID Purdue University
--