

The Chair

Robert W. Acker, Professor - I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all the best and much success as we begin the new semester! We face an exciting future in the department and I am looking forward to working with all of you! I want to particularly welcome our new Assistant Professors, Benedicte Boisseron, French; Mladen Kozul, French; Marton Marko, German; and Naomi Shin, Spanish; as well as Kelly Noe, Spanish, Lecturer.

Classics

Linda W. Gillison, Section Head, Professor, was re-appointed by the College Board and Educational Testing Service to the Test Development Committee for the Advanced Placement Latin Exam. In that connection, she participated in a panel, "The Making and Evaluation of the Latin Advanced Placement Exam," at the annual meeting of the Classical Association of the Middle West and South. She presented a paper, "Auctoritas and Cicero's *De Officiis*," at the annual meeting of the Rocky Mountain Modern Language Association and is this year serving as chair of the Latin Literature session of that association. She was elected as Editor for *The Montana Professor*. On the College Board's AP Central site, she published three reviews: Grote, Dale A. *A Comprehensive Guide to Wheelock's Latin*; LaFleur, *Wheelock's Latin, 6th Edition*; and Luschign, Cecilia *et al.*, *The Worlds of Roman Women*. She participated in the university's Summer Institute on Assessment for General Education this July and was named to the General Education Subcommittee by ASCRC. She completed four years' service as chairperson of Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures and returns this year to other faculty duties.

Hayden Ausland, Professor - During the summer, I read three papers at conferences abroad and a chapter I authored was published in a book.

(I) Conferences abroad

"Two Psychic Images in the Republic. On Republic 436b8-437a10," at the Congres de l'ISNS (International Society for Neoplatonic Studies) in Québec, Canada; June 27, 2006

"Al-Ghazali and Ibn Rushd on the Problems of Unveiling the Truth," likewise at the Congres de l'ISNS (International Society for Neoplatonic Studies) in Québec, Canada; June 28, 2006

"Plato on Doing Justice to the Whole" at the 18th International Conference of Philosophy of the IAGP (International Society for Greek Philosophy) in Kavala, Greece; July 21, 2006

(II) A chapter I authored in a book appeared: Ausland, H. "The Mathematics of Justice," in Tarrant, H. & Baltzly, D., ed., *Reading Plato in Antiquity*, London: Duckworth 2006, 107-123

James M. Scott, Professor - During the summer my wife, Anita, and I finished translating and briefly introducing and commenting on the Latin parish records of St. John the Baptist Catholic church in Frenchtown (the oldest church in regular use in Montana). These Latin records cover approximately the years 1860-1908, after which the priests began to write in English. Many well known Missoula names, such as Higgins, Daly, Connell, Buckhouse, and Beckwith appear in addition to other historic names, such as Peter and Mary Ronan, Chief Victor, Fr. Ravalli, and Governor Meagher, to name but a few.

This autumn Anita and I are continuing the same type of activity with records of the DeSmet years (1840-1860). Copies of these records were brought back from the Jesuit Archives in Rome by Dr. Sally Thompson of the Regional Learning Center.

French

Michel Valentin, Associate Professor - Under the guidance of Professor Valentin, Alliance Francaise, Missoula, is sponsoring a variety of interesting events in the coming academic year. For

more information, see MCLL's web page at www.umt.edu/mcll

German

Liz Ametsbichler, Section Head,

Professor - I would like to welcome the new members of the German Section. We are happy to have Marton (Marty) Marko join us in a tenure-track position from Rensselaer; the three first-year graduate students who are TA-ing for us this year are: Elisabeth Belz, Rob Mottram, and Stella Zion. The Austrian Fulbright exchange instructors this year are Marlene Pichler, who will teach first-year German, and Ursula Windhab, who will teach second-year German. We will miss Hiltrud Arens, who is enjoying a sabbatical this fall. This year, I am Chair of the Faculty Senate and welcome your input on campus-wide academic affairs.

I would also like to remind everyone of the annual German Fest down at Caras Park on Sunday, September 10th, from 3-6:00. Please take time to visit the three marvelous artworks currently on display in the President's Office in Main Hall: two works by Egon Schiele and one by Anselm Kiefer.

Japanese

Judith Rabinovitch, Section Head,

Professor - Japanese section enrollments are strong again this year, and many of our third-year students have been able to go to Japan for the full year on exchanges and internships! We are fortunate to have Ms. Amick with us again this year, teaching at the first and second year levels and enabling us to reduce our large class sizes somewhat. My big news is a new book, published at Cornell with Prof Bradstock, who is in the Chinese section. This is an anthology of Chinese poetry written by Japanese courtiers more than a thousand years ago--Chinese was the prestige written language throughout much of Japanese history. I've also been working in a new area--the interesting literary and linguistic interactions between Chinese poetry (as written in Japan) and the native haiku form. I spent much of last year as a visiting professor of Japanese literature at a small college in Kumamoto, a wonderful opportunity and my first experience teaching in a Japanese college (as opposed to doing research).

Russian

Ona Renner-Fahey, Assistant Professor -

My travels this summer led me overseas three times, to Poland, Russia and China. In May I went to Wroclaw, Poland to attend a comparative literature conference entitled "Definitions of the Real." The paper I presented, which will be published in conference proceedings, centered on fear and the supernatural in two texts: *The Body Artist* by the American author Don DeLillo and *The Dybbuk* by the Polish author Hanna Krall.

A couple weeks after my return, I flew over the Atlantic again, this time to Russia. There were two reasons for this trip. I went with my mother and uncle to the city on the Volga where my great-grandfather of German descent was born. Formerly, Saratov was heavily populated by the Volga-Deutsch, the Germans whom Catherine the Great brought over to live in Russia. The second reason for this trip to Russia was to explore a possible site for future study abroad programs. To this aim, I visited another city on the Volga, Samara, where I met with representatives of Samara State University. During our talks they expressed a sincere interest in cooperation with UM on a grander scale, including research cooperation and faculty exchange.

My final trip overseas took me across the Pacific to China. This Study Tour, through UM's Mansfield Center and the Central and Southwest Asian Program was organized to increase UM's knowledge of and familiarity with the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region in Western China. Over half the region's population is Muslim. During our two and a half week stay, we attended lectures, visited museums, and went on numerous excursions.

Spanish

Clary Loisel, Associate Professor - I

translated the play "Dracula gay" by the Mexican playwright Tomás Urtusástegui. My translation appears as "Gay Dracula" and was published by the *Harrington Gay Men's Fiction Quarterly*; Volume 7; Number 4; 2005; pages 39-45.

I also published the translation of the novel "La más fuerte pasión" by the Mexican writer Luis Zapata. My translation appears as "The Strongest Passion" and was published by Floricanto Press; 2006; 212 pages.