

The Chair

Bob Acker: On behalf of the Department I would like to first extend a special welcome to our new Administrative Aide, Olivia White. Olivia comes to us from the office of Facilities Services and has excellent qualifications and recommendations. We are all looking forward to working with her. Second, my congratulations to all the colleagues listed below for their many and varied contributions. Third, please don't forget to sign up for your presentations for our annual Foreign Language Day coming up on March 7, 2008.

Staff

Olivia White: My name is Olivia White and I am the new administrative aide. I am currently working on my BA in English Literature and I look forward to graduating in the spring. I am very excited to be part of this Department and have enjoyed meeting all of you. For those of you I have not met I look forward to getting to know all of the new faces. Thank you for welcoming me into your department!

MALT Bulletin

Don't forget to send **Marty Marko** any submissions you might have for the upcoming issue of the *MALT Bulletin*. This year's deadline is somewhat early: **December 15**. Marty welcomes articles on a wide range of topics of interest to the profession--see last month's Newsletter for a complete list.

Arabic

Samir Bitar writes: From May 15 to May 17, 2007 I had the privilege of conducting a three day workshop for the Southern Methodist Church as their Annual Yellowstone Conference School for Professional Ministry. Pastors from all over the state of Montana and Northern Wyoming attended the academy at the Ursuline Center in Great Falls. The workshop was entitled, "Intro to The Arab World: Its People, History, and Language". I described Muslim countries around the globe and discussed countries where Arabic is the official language. My brief addressed the cultural and historical background of these countries with special emphasis on Palestine, my place of birth. Upon my return to Missoula I received the following commentary from the conference's organizer, pastor Mike Hart. "We heard many wonderful comments on your presence with us. There is so much we do not know about the people of what we call the Middle East or of Islam as a whole. You gave us much to take to our people. Pray that they will hear.")

Group photo submitted by Samir Bitar



French

Ione Crummy will be presenting a paper Oct. 18-20, 2007, entitled, "George Sand's *Contes de veillées* : Voice of the People?", at the 33rd Annual Nineteenth-Century French Studies Colloquium at the University of South Alabama at Mobile, AL.

Mladen Kozul published two articles: « Fantasma théâtralisé et théâtre baroque », in *L'annuaire théâtral*, 41, printemps 2007, p. 40-50 ; and « Faut-il prendre un parti ? Peut-on prendre un parti ? », in *Cahiers Voltaire*, 6, 2007, p. 162-167.

The Alliance Française of Missoula (President, Michel Valentin) will sponsor a presentation by Professor Evelyne Bloch-Dano entitled, « Madame Proust, » which deals with Marcel Proust's mother and her influence upon him. It will take place on October 21 at 7 :00 p.m. in the President's Room in Brantley Hall. For more information, please call 243-2301. The presentation is in English and free and open to the public. A reception will follow.

Michel Valentin published a guest column on the Opinion page of the *Missoulian* on Oct. 5. Michel urges the new owners of the Wilma Theater to continue showing foreign films. His column is co-signed by 16 present and former MCLL faculty members and students.

German

Liz Ametsbichler has the following publications: "Anatol" (41-42), "Liebeleien" (815-16), "Professor Berhardi" (1103-04), "Reigen" (1126-27), and "Arthur Schnitzler" (1195-1199) in *The Columbia Encyclopedia of Modern Drama*. Eds. Gabrielle H. Cody and Evert Sprinchorn. NY: Columbia UP, 2007.

As Book Review Editor for *German Studies Review*, Liz Ametsbichler, along with graduate student and GSR assistant Lindsey Brandt, attended the *German Studies Association* Annual Conference in San Diego October 4-7th.

Russian

Ona Renner and Clint Walker are serving as co-advisors to UM's Russian Club and would like to share with everyone that the club has been having a very active autumn semester. The attendance at the weekly conversation table has grown too large for its previous location, so the club has been trying out different venues in search of the perfect spot. Additionally, Russian Club has for the first time formed a board, which seems to be working very well for both distributing work and implementing new ideas. The board is raffling off a Russian film in order to raise a few dollars and is also selling t-shirts. Finally, they have been planning and baking for an Afternoon Tea that they were asked to host in honor of a group of 17 teachers who are visiting from Russia and who have been invited to UM in connection with a grant through the Central and Southwest Asian Program. The Tea was held October 7 and was a huge success!

Ona Renner published a translation of a scholarly article, which was included in the new book *Madness and the Mad in Russian Culture* (University of Toronto Press). The translation is of Elena Dryzhakova's article "Madness as an Act of Defense of Personality in Dostoevsky's *The Double*."

This spring semester Clint Walker will be teaching our course on 19th-century Russian literature in translation. If you know of students who would enjoy and/or benefit from reading Tolstoy, Dostoevsky, and other Russian greats of that century, please let them know about this course!

Spanish

Clary Loisel read a paper entitled "A Process of Becoming Clairvoyant" at the Rocky Mountain Modern Language Association in Calgary, Alberta, Canada on October 4, 2007. The talk dealt with how silence serves as a compass and seeks a voice outside the "master's language" in both Isabel Allende's *The House of the Spirits* and Rigoberta Menchu's *I, Rigoberta Menchu: An Indian Woman in Guatemala*.