

MCLL News

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Modern & Classical Languages & Literatures

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The Chair

Bob Acker: I would like to welcome you all to the beginning of the new academic year. I would like to particularly welcome to the Department our nine new colleagues (2 sabbatical replacements, 5 Fulbright TAs, 1 exchange instructor and 1 TA). These folks are introduced by their sections below. As you can see, many of the faculty were very busy and productive during the summer and I congratulate them all for their many accomplishments. We are all looking forward to a rewarding semester.

MALT

Marty Marko will again be editing the MALT Bulletin this upcoming year, and, as always, invites contributions and announcements. Deadlines for submissions will be March 3rd, 2009 – but early submissions are welcome. If you are considering a contribution or have any questions, please contact Marty at marton.marko@mso.umt.edu or drop by his office in LA 435.

The annual **MALT Conference** will be held in Missoula Oct. 16-17, and several colleagues will be giving presentations there. All members of the Department are invited to attend and help support our colleagues who teach foreign languages in the high schools.

Arabic

Samir Bitar attended a Workshop for Teachers of Arabic at the Middle East Institute in Washington, D.C. this past summer and participated in an ACTFL Workshop on Oral Proficiency Interview Tester Training. He also

completed the first two stages of teacher training in Assessment and Pedagogy.

Khaled Huthaily received his Ed.D. degree from the University of Montana this past Spring. Congratulations Dr. Huthaily!

French

The French Section is pleased to welcome **Florent Hebert**. Florent is the exchange instructor for this year from the University of Toulouse, where he earned a degree in English.

Ione Crummy will present a paper, “Lucrezia Floriani — Re(per)forming Corinne, ou l’Italie through Marie Dorval,” at the Eighteenth International George Sand Studies Conference, “Writing, Performance and Theatricality in George Sand’s Works,” at the University of California at Santa Barbara, September 25-27, 2008.

Michel Valentin’s article, “The Limits of Identity Politics,” will be published in the November/December issue of “The Liberator.” An article he re-wrote, “Touki Bouki and the Hybridity Transformer” in African cinema will be published in December by Idaho State University Press (proceedings of the ISU Conference on Hybridity).

Alliance française de Missoula: On October 20 Jacques Andréani (former ambassador of France to the US) will be the guest of the Alliance Française de Missoula, of UM and especially of the Office of International Programming. He will speak about The New Europe, the French leadership of the EU for the period, and the importance of the European constitution.

German

The German Section welcomes **Andrea Kuenz** from Austria as our Fulbright teacher for the first year German. She has an M.A. degree in French and English and a certification to teach, which she has done for two years in Austria. This is her very first visit to the US and she is excited to be here! We also welcome our graduate student **Lindsey Brandt** back for her second year of studies and as a Teaching Assistant for first year German.

Hiltrud Arens received a Faculty Development Grant to participate in the *23rd Annual Berlin Literature Seminar* organized by Loyola College (Md.) from July 7-July 12 (in Berlin). Six authors came to the Seminar and read from their works and discussed their writing in the context of contemporary Germany. She is the new section head of German.

Marty Marko spent portions of June and August conducting research at the Max Kade Center for Contemporary German Literature at Washington University in St. Louis. His work was supported by a summer fellowship from the DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service). In June, he also attended a conference at Queen's University in Belfast, Northern Ireland, "Poetics after '45: Crisis and Creativity," where he presented a paper, "Nature, Reflection, and Transformation in the Postwar Poetry of Ingeborg Bachmann."

The **GermanFest** is on Sunday, September 7th at Caras Park from 3-6:00 p.m. All are invited.

Japanese

The Japanese Section has the pleasure of welcoming two new members of the faculty to MCLL this year. A long-time resident of Vancouver, BC, **Yuri Naito** has an MA from the University of Toronto in Japanese Linguistics, with an interest in Semantics. She will teach an introductory course on Japanese semantics in the spring. Student interest is already high. Yuri was formerly an instructor of Japanese at Miami University in Ohio.

Shiho Yamamoto is a Fulbright Program assistant originally from Iwakuni in

Yamaguchi Prefecture and is currently working with **Charles Exley** and Ms. Naito mainly in the 101 and 201 classrooms. Ms. Yamamoto was formerly an exchange student for one year at the University of Arkansas and has also taught primary-school Japanese for a period of a year in Connecticut.

Yuka Tachibana is about to depart for Japan, where she will spend two years conducting research on Japanese language acquisition at her alma mater in Sendai, Tohoku University.

Judith Rabinovitch, Section Head, visited Tottori Prefecture in Japan during May with **Tim Bradstock** of the Chinese section. There, they saw sites related to the Japanese poet whose unpublished Chinese poetry collection (ca 1900) they have recently completed translating. Also, they visited a small town, Kobaru, in Kyushu, where Judith gave a lecture on Japanese aesthetics. It was followed by a Q and A with professors visiting from several universities in northern Kyushu.

Russian

The Russian section warmly welcomes our new Fulbright, **Tamara Shtanova**. Tamara, originally from Ulyanovsk (located on the Volga river), taught English in Moscow for two years before joining us. Here at UM she is teaching a section of first-year Russian language each semester. This autumn Tamara is also studying Spanish and American History.

Clint Walker recently reviewed a book of correspondence between two 19th-century literary figures, Ivan Aksakov and Nikolai Strakhov. The review is to be published in the winter 2008 volume of *The Slavic and East European Journal*. In summer the 2009 he will be leading a group of students to Moscow for three weeks and welcomes your help with getting the word out to prospective participants. This semester he is teaching a new course on Russian film.

This summer **Ona Renner-Fahey** attended a three-week seminar on teaching the legacy of the Holocaust at the Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington D.C. She

also finished an article on a 19th-century autobiographical work by Nadezhda Durova.

Spanish

We are pleased to welcome **Ismael Artiga** and **María de la Paz García-Villalba Navaridas** to the Section. Ismael is originally from Zaragoza, Spain, graduated from the Universidad de Zaragoza, has his Ph.D. from the University of Kentucky in Lexington, and is here to cover for our two sabbatical leaves. María Paz is originally from Alicante, graduated from the Universidad de Alicante, has travelled over most of Europe, and has taught at a primary school in rural England. She is our Fulbright Exchange--our first one from Spain.

We are fortunate to have back this fall our outstanding staff of: adjunct instructors **Manolita Connor, Melissa MacKenzie, Alicia Gignoux, Linda Bailey; Lecturer Kelly Noe; and TA Bret Linford.**

María Bustos-Fernández is back from her spring semester Study Abroad Program in Argentina at the Universidad de Tucumán. She is serving as the Spanish Section Graduate Student Adviser and Latin American Studies Minor Adviser.

Clary Loisel received a Faculty Development Award to attend the *CIEE (Council on International Educational Exchange) International Faculty Development Seminar* entitled "The Environmental Impact of Brazil's Economic Growth" in Sao Paulo in July. He will be able to use much of what he learned in his spring 2009 course "MCLG 358: Latin American Civilization through Literature and

Film." This seminar examined the many issues related to Brazil's economy and its growth and focused on environmental implications. He recently published "El romanticismo en Hispanoamérica" in *Sieteculebras* and his article "Print the Myth: Elena Poniatowska's Biographical Fiction" will be published next spring in *Confluencias*. His interview "Entrevista a Juan Bosco" will be published in the near future in the *Revista de la Literatura Mexicana*. Perhaps his biggest accomplishment over the summer was to finish a lengthy scholarly introduction to his anthology of contemporary Mexican gay and lesbian plays. He hopes to see also his anthology in print within the year. He is advising students who go abroad on a foreign study abroad program.

Jannine Montauban and Eduardo Chirinos are in Spain presently and will be spending their sabbatical year toggling between Spain, Missoula, and Peru.

Naomi Shin is on partial maternity leave this fall to take care of her newborn daughter, Suli.

Stan Rose is the new Spanish Section Head this year.

Turkish

The Department is pleased to welcome **Selin Bitti**, who will be teaching elementary Turkish for us this year. Selin comes to us courtesy of the Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistant program, and is a graduate of Bogazici University in Istanbul.