Dear Colleagues,

If 2003-04 was an auspicious maiden voyage into the land of newsletters, 2004-05 is even more accomplished as this year’s extra pages attest. The energy and vitality of the program has expanded among the members of our community, and I would especially like to mention the role of the graduate students.

We remain the Secretariat of the American Comparative Literature Association, serving as its home and it guide, and continue to excel as one of the most award winning and academically energetic doctoral programs in the College of Liberal Arts, thanks to the expertise of our fine and diverse faculty and our intrepid and accomplished students. We have an emerging presence for undergraduates as well thanks to our new minor, and the first students will soon graduate in that field.

But the centerpiece of the year was the graduate students’ conference, the first sponsored by the program in more than twenty years. This event, in early October, brought students from across the campus, the state and the country to share their thoughts and research about our field as the shapers of its future. This inaugural year will be followed with a second conference this fall at which Dr. Avital Ronell of NYU will offer the keynote.

I hope that you enjoy reading about your accomplishments and those of your colleagues and that you will be able to join us for some of our activities in 2005-06.

Elizabeth Richmond-Garza
Incoming Graduate Students

Every year we face the challenge of admitting and funding the most capable and promising students. The students we admit shape the future of the program and constitute a new generation of scholars.

Out of 75 applicants this year, the admissions committee selected the following class: **Nandini Dhar** (MA, Jadavpur University; MA, University of Oregon): African-American and South Asian literatures and Postcolonial theory; **Lindsay Henning** (BA, University of Oregon): Latin American and Caribbean literatures, Postcolonial studies and social activism; **Mary Keefe** (BA, Georgetown University): Greco-Roman Literature, East Asian Literatures, mythology, film studies; **Alexei Lalo** (BA, Minsk State Linguistic University): Russian, American, British, and French Literatures, cultural studies, sociology; **Heather Latiolais** (BA, Hollins University): English, French, and German Literatures, 19th and 20th centuries, art history, feminist and gender studies; **Lanie Miller** (BA, Baylor University; MA, Middlebury College): Modern Latin American Literature, 19th and 20th-century narrative, women’s writing, critical theory; **Marcin Rusinkiewicz** (BA, Stanford University): Spanish and Polish Literatures, Latin America, central Europe, peripheries of the West; **Miguel Santos-Neves** (BA, Brown University): American, Brazilian, Latin American, and French Literatures; **Catherine Thesen** (BA, Miami University, Ohio): modern and contemporary literatures, Existentialism.

The 2005 admissions committee consisted of Yvonne Chang, Mo Ghanoompravar, Tony Hilfer, Neville Hoad, Naomi Lindstrom, Wayne Rebhorn, Cory Reed, Elizabeth Richmond-Garza, César Salgado, Alexandra Wettlaufer, Seth Wolitz, and Lynn Wilkinson.

---

Note from GRACLS

As the first officially elected president of the Graduate Association of Comparative Literature Students (GRACLS), I would like to describe briefly our activities and plans for this and next semesters. From the time when GRACLS started its new life headed by the newly elected officers in October, 2004, we established monthly meetings to discuss current issues and concerns and plan upcoming events for the organization. Among some of the results of the meetings are the GRACLS constitution (soon to be available online), planning of the fundraising events, and assignment of duties among the GRACLS members. One of our important projects is the establishment of regular sessions on preparation for the Qualifying and Comprehensive Exams, prospectus presentation, and conference talks.

Within a month we plan to have the GRACLS web page that will provide information on the history and purpose of the organization, its members and upcoming events. There will also be a separate web page devoted to the Second Annual Graduate Student Conference. Our far-reaching project is the creation of a web-based alumni database to promote continuity and facilitate communication for its members.

If you have questions or comments about GRACLS, please contact me at maralex@mail.utexas.edu or the GRACLS officers:

**Secretary:** Carlos Amador  
**Treasurer:** Christopher D. Micklethwait  
**GSA Representative:** Stephanie Crouch  
**Social Coordinator:** Dafydd Wood  
**Conference Organizers:** Jenny Philips and Aména Moïnfar.

---

-- Marina Alexandrova
Undergraduate Courses

**CL 315**  
Introduction to World Literature  
Elizabeth Richmond-Garza

**CL 323**  
Hans Christian Andersen  
Kristian Himmelstrup

Holocaust Aftereffects  
Pascale Rachel Bos

Holocaust on the Stage  
Bettina Warnke

Introduction to Arabic Literature  
Samer Ali

Introduction to Israeli Literature  
Karen Grumberg

Sacred & Secular in Contemporary Jewish Literature  
Karen Grumberg

Screen Nazis  
Sabine Hake

Graduate Courses

**CL 180K**  
Introduction to Comparative Literature: Proseminar in methods of study and research  
Elizabeth Richmond-Garza

**CL 381**  
The Backgrounds of Modernism  
Alan Friedman

Graduate Courses, continued

**CL 381**  
Black Atlantic Modernisms  
Jennifer Wilks

Modern & Postmodern Chinese Literary Culture  
Sung-sheng Yvonne Chang

Modern Jewish Fiction  
Seth Wolitz

**CL 382**  
(Hi)Story: Telling Stories of Culture  
Katherine Arens

Fundamentals of Scholarship  
Katherine Arens

Indian Women Writers: Gender & Politics  
Narratives of Migrant Writers of Indian Origin  
Mala Pandurang

Literature & Human Rights  
Barbara Harlow

Twentieth-Century Literary Theory  
Sabine Hake

World Literature and Globalism: Theory and Practice  
Elizabeth Richmond-Garza

**CL 390**  
Twentieth-Century (Western) Literary Theory: An Introduction  
César Salgado
Student News and Profiles

Degree Recipients

**Master of Arts**

Marina Alexandrova  
*Vicente Huidobro and Vladimir Maiakovskii: Conceptual and Textual Parallelisms.*

Ines Benlloch  

Barbi Marissa Fowler  

Julia Alexandrovna Klueva  
*Ethics and Aesthetics in the Works of A.S. Pushkin.*

Nicole Andrea Harter  
*An Interdisciplinary Reading of the Elements of Ritual in Diamela Eltit’s Lumperica.*

Andrea Katherine Hilkovitz  
*Writing Womanhood: Francophone African Women’s Bildungsromane and the Counter-Discourse of Female Development.*

Daniel Harold Guralnick  

**Doctor of Philosophy**

Elena Garcia-Martin  
*Negotiating Golden Age Tradition Since the Spanish Second Republic: Performing National, Political and Social Identities.*

Jean Laurie Love El Harim  
*Translating Nouzha Fassi Fihri’s La Baroudeuse: A Case Study in Postcolonial Translation.*

Molly Mezzetti Zaldivar  
*Boccaccio and Romance.*

Continuing Fellowships

(2004-2005)

Rob Lesman  
*The Politics of Intertextuality and Translation: The Presence of U.S. Poets in Orígenes (1944-56).*

Kai-Man Chang  
*Globalization of/by/for the Edge: Modern (Homo)-Sexuality in the Transnational Taiwanese Films.*

Vessela Valiavitcharska  
*Prose Rhythm and Performance in Byzantine and Medieval Slavic Rhetoric.*

(2005-2006)

Laura Sager  
*Writing and Filming the Painting: Ekphrasis in Literature and Film.*

Hulya Yildiz  
*Westernization, Nationalism, Gender, and the Development of the Novel Genre in Turkey.*

Kai-Man Chang  
*Globalization of/by/for the Edge: Modern (Homo)-Sexuality in the Transnational Taiwanese Films.*
Prizes and Fellowships

**FLAS Fellowship**

**Sarah Ponichtera**

Sarah received a FLAS Fellowship for language study at the Uriel Weinreich Program in Yiddish Language in New York City during summer, 2004.

**Liberal Arts Council Scholarship**

**Carlos Amador**

Carlos received support for manuscript research in Miami during summer, 2005.

**Anna Katsnelson**

Anna received support for language and literature studies in Brazil during summer, 2004.

**Professional Development Awards**

These awards provide support for students to attend major professional meetings at which they present original papers based on their research. This year’s recipients are: **Russell Cobb; Hyunjung Lee; Margarita Marinova; Jenny Philips; Jillian Sayre.**

**Pre-Emptive Fellowships**

These fellowships are prestigious awards offered by the Graduate School to attract top quality graduate students to the university.

**Jennifer Watson** (2004-2005)

**Miguel Santos-Neves** (2005-2006)

**Christopher Micklethwait**

Second Annual Recipient, Elizabeth Warnock Fernea Endowment Fellowship

Mr. Christopher Micklethwait joined UT’s Program in Comparative Literature in the fall of 2000 after having completed BAs in English and Arabic at UT the same year. Through his coursework, which he is completing this spring, Mr. Micklethwait has focused on the rise of modernity in French, Arabic, Caribbean and Latin-American literatures and is planning a dissertation project on the role of little journals and literary magazines in Diaspora and in the formation of modernist movements.

Mr. Micklethwait will use the Fernea fellowship this summer to research late-nineteenth century French literary magazines and little journals at the Bibliothèque Nationale and Bibliothèque Sainte Geneviève in Paris. The Fernea fellowship will also support him this summer while he translates early Arab American poetry for the sophomore literature class he’ll teach next fall, “Arab American Literature and Culture.”
Delia Avila is a first-year Master’s student, focusing on medieval Spanish and Arabic poetry. Her main interest is the classical Arabic ode or qasida of Islamic Spain and how it was transformed since its pre-Islamic origin in the Arabian peninsula.

Lu Chen received her MA in English from Peking University, Beijing, China. Her research goals include Anglo-American modernism, various modernist trends in 20th-century Chinese literature, and the interactions among them. She is particularly interested in identity politics and cultural imagination. Her languages are Chinese, English, and French.

Stephanie Crouch earned a B.A. from the University of Texas at Austin, with a concentration in folklore studies. She is a member of the Kommission für Volksdichtung, an affiliate of Société Internationale d’Ethnologie et de Folklore, and continues to study ballads and folk song.

Naminata Diabate received her MA in 2000 and a pre-doctorate degree in 2002 in American Literature and Civilization at the University of Cocody, Abidjan in the Ivory Coast. She is a Fulbright recipient, and her current areas of interest include literature by Francophone and African American women, feminism, and postcolonial theories.

Elizabeth Erbeznik received her BA in English and French from the University of California, Los Angeles in 2000. She taught English for two years as a Peace Corps volunteer in Madagascar where she learned to speak Malagasy. Her interests include literature of the Caribbean, Francophone Africa, and the Indian Ocean, as well as postcolonial and gender studies.

Crystal Kurzen earned her BA in English and Spanish from Anderson University in Indiana. After working in publishing in New York City, she returned to school and received an MA in Comparative Studies from The Ohio State University in 2004. Her interests include 20th century Trans-American literatures, focusing on the genres of women’s autobiography, diary, and testimonio. Her languages are Spanish and Portuguese, and she is interested in Anthropology as a third area of study.

Jason Leubner received his BA in English from the University of Washington. He is currently studying Late Medieval and Renaissance literatures in English, French, and Italian and is particularly interested in their ancient and classical influences.

Jennifer Watson graduated from the University of Glasgow, Scotland, with a degree in French and German. As an undergraduate, she also spent a year studying at the State University of New York (SUNY) at Albany as well as a semester at the Humboldt Universität zu Berlin. She has also lived in both München, Germany, and Montpellier, France. She is interested in gender, sexuality, and nationality, especially in late 18th- and early 19th century French and Scottish literature.
GRACLS Conference

On October 7-8, 2004, the Graduate Association of Comparative Literature Students hosted the first of an annual series of graduate student conferences for comparative literature. This year’s conference included 39 papers in 13 panels.

The conference attracted presenters from California State, Northwestern, Florida State, Rutgers, Sam Houston State, Yale, Texas State, Univ. of New Mexico, and others. In addition to UT’s Program in Comparative Literature, the conference drew participants from UT’s Departments of Spanish and Portuguese, French and Italian, Germanic Studies, and Slavic and Eurasian Studies.

Dr. Elizabeth Richmond-Garza, Director of the Program in Comparative Literature and Distinguished University Teaching Associate Professor in English, welcomed the participants with an inspiring address on the importance of comparative literary studies.

Dr. Lilian R. Furst, Marcel Bataillon Professor of Comparative Literature at UNC, Chapel Hill closed the conference with her keynote address, “The Crises of Comparative Literature,” which was made possible through the generous sponsorship of the Center for Russian, East European and Eurasian Studies (CREEES).

The conference would not have happened without Dr. Richmond-Garza’s invaluable support and inspiration. GRACLS also thanks for their contributions Dr. Belgum, The Texas Chair for German Literature and Culture, and the Department of Germanic Studies; Dr. Bini and the Department of French and Italian; Dr. Brow and the South Asia Institute; Dr. Garza and the Department of Slavic and Eurasian Studies; Dr. Bernucci and the Department of Spanish and Portuguese; and Dr. Heng and the Program in Medieval Studies.
Liminal Space of Modern Sexualities in Tsai Ming-liang’s Films

The image of the homosexual in Taiwan has become increasingly associated with the global modern urban condition, a condition in which social liberation and social mobility contend with traditional values espoused by state and family. In the 1990s, Taiwan witnessed an unprecedented flowering of lesbian and gay cultures, from gay activism and literature to various commercial venues such as gay bars, dance clubs and bathhouses. Although Taiwanese directors like Yu Kan-ping (The Outcasts, 1986) and Ang Lee (The Wedding Banquet, 1993) have made films on homosexual themes, it is Malaysian-born Tsai Ming-liang who has emerged as the foremost advocate of homosexual themes in Taiwan cinema. In his award-winning features (Rebels of the Neon God, 1992; Vive L’Amour, 1994; The River, 1996; The Hole, 1998; What Time Is It There?, 2001; Goodbye Dragon Inn, 2003; and The Wayward Cloud, 2005), Tsai examines the distinctive relationship between modern Taipei and the gay experience, exploring in a compelling fashion its growing implications for the cultural and political imagination of modern sexualities.

All of Tsai’s films revolve in the same city, Taipei, and around the same character, Hsiao-kang, played by the actor, Lee Kang-sheng. Tsai’s filmmaking process probes into the life of Lee Kang-sheng (an amateur actor Tsai accidentally picked on the street of Taipei) and uses him as a persona in order to play out and interrogate gender and sexual stereotypes and to convey the extent of anxiety and pain that a modern gay man feels in a homophobic society. As Tsai occupies an ambiguous space in Taiwan shaped by his position as a foreigner, a stranger, hovering in the in-between spaces, his two realities—his personal life and the life of his cinematic counterpart—fold together. For Tsai, the establishment of urban, everyday life facilitates and conditions the practices and expressions of modern gay male desire. His films explore spaces such as streets of Taipei (Rebels of the Neon God), vacant apartments (Vive L’Amore), gay bathhouses (The River), and Fo-Ho Theater (Goodbye Dragon Inn) where homosexual identities and cultures are built. His minimalist aesthetics explores places and objects that people take for granted and imbues them with new meaning. His signature long takes, lasting seven minutes on average, conjure an eroticism of the most ordinary things and articulate communities in places where others seldom think to look. Entrances, exits, bridges, and stairways are in-between spaces of transition that Tsai deploys to question and redefine modern sexual identities that are often perceived in the binary logic of male/female, masculinity/femininity, homo/hetero, self/other, etc.

Using this multiple and repetitious flow of filmic space as a metaphor, Tsai locates diasporic, transnational and global facets of lesbians/gay and other sexual minorities within a framework of daily struggles against heteronormative domesticity and the civic policing of sexuality. Through careful and insightful portrayals of gay men’s lives and rituals in Taipei, Tsai demonstrates that gay subcultures are not merely fashionable lifestyles, but necessary mechanisms that many lesbian and gay people mobilize in order to create their own living spaces in a homophobic world. Confronted with multiple displacements, diasporic gay men and lesbians are faced with the monumental tasks of going back and forth between different cultures to reconstruct their identities, as well as the spaces they occupy.

Kai-Man Chang is a doctoral candidate. He has received a Continuing Burton Fellowship for his work on Taiwanese cinema.
In the summer of 2004, Anna Katsnelson received a Liberal Arts Council Scholarship to take Portuguese Language classes and to study Brazilian Literature at the University Federal de Minas Gerais, in Belo Horizonte, Brazil. For the newsletter, Anna has offered to share a part of her travel journal describing this experience.

It is now the fifth week of our stay in Brazil. I have finished my literature requirements and have only one week of language classes left. Next Friday we leave to see some of the other states of Brazil, including the state of Bahia, named for the “Bay” that the largest city in the state sits in, and Rio de Janeiro (or river of January), named for what an explorer thought was a river when he first entered the enormous bay in Brazil, and for the month in which their ship entered the bay.

We have been on a tour of virtually all the most important colonial towns in the state of Minas Gerais. Our first important trip was to the beautiful towns of Mariana and Ouro Preto, or “black gold.” Ouro Preto was known as Vila Rica when it was first built, the name implying that enormous wealth was being produced and spent in the town.

Ouro Preto is set among montes, and its colonial, baroque, and rococo architecture sits perched on the top of small hills. The town is still cobblestoned, and people live in the colorful two story houses lining the tiny streets. We visited at least a dozen baroque churches dating from the early to the late 18th century. Almost all of the most prominent churches are set on top of these very steep hills. Every one of them was so different and so appealing that to do justice to the architects, painters and sculptors, one could not visit fewer. Like in a lot of the towns in Minas, many of the most prominent churches were the works of Alejadinho, arguably Brazil’s most important pre-20th Century architect and sculptor. He is know mostly for the wonderful carvings on wood and stone that have influenced a great majority of Brazilian artists.

Although I was partially prepared for what I was about to see by the Brazil show at the Guggenheim several years ago, I was definitely not fully prepared for the amount of wealth and beauty here.

Anna Katsnelson is a doctoral student entering her third year in the program.
Field Research Report from Turkey

I have been in Turkey since the end of August 2004 to do research in the Ottoman archives, as a part of my dissertation project on “Westernization, Nationalism, Women and the Early Turkish Novels.” My research in Turkey is partly supported by Elizabeth Warnock Fernea Endowment Fellowship, of which I was the first recipient in 2004. In my dissertation, I am examining the early examples of the novel genre in Turkey starting at the mid-nineteenth-century. In my research, I have noticed that during this period, most of the novels written by men are preoccupied with the effects of modernization and westernization among the Ottoman elite. This preoccupation crystallizes itself around a relationship between a young Ottoman man and a European and/or non-Muslim woman. Two major issues dominate almost all of the novels of this period: the problem of the place of women in the changing society, and the westernization of upper-class men. I investigate what it means to be an Ottoman and Muslim and at the same time Europeanized. What kind of gendered identities are imagined and represented as Ottoman and European in the earliest examples of the novel genre in Turkey? And what are the ways in which these identities represent, shape, and define the larger discussions of the time? Although Ottoman women played a vital role in the debates of the time, Ottoman women’s contribution to nineteenth-century cultural life and the novelistic genre has not been adequately examined and therefore not included in the Turkish literary canon. To be able to uncover the voices of women writers and readers of the time, I am examining archival texts, some of which haven’t been examined before, including newspapers, magazines, and novels. Ottoman texts I am studying for my dissertation are located at various libraries in Turkey, most of which are located in Ankara and Istanbul. For the time being, I am visiting the archives in Ankara, and in late Spring and Summer, I will be studying at the archives in Istanbul.

Since I have been here, in addition to studying at the archives, I have also been continuing to learn Ottoman, which I started to study in the summer of 2003. During the Fall semester of 2004, I took Ottoman classes from the Department of History, at the Middle East Technical University (METU) in Ankara. As a result of this class and my earlier studies, now I can read the printed texts in Ottoman. This semester, I am registered to take the second part of the same course, which involves learning how to read Ottoman manuscripts.

Hülya Yildiz is a doctoral candidate. She is the recipient of a Hemphill/Gilmore Fellowship and she plans to continue her research in Turkey next year.
Kendall Dunkelberg


He has been awarded a Fulbright Scholar grant to lecture at the Catholic University of Leuven and Lessius Hogeschool in Belgium during 2005-2006 academic year, where he will teach American poetry in the twentieth century and writing by American women from the colonial period through the twentieth century.

Robert Fulton

Robert Fulton earned his degree in 1999 with language emphases in Sanskrit, Greek, Dutch and German. His dissertation examines the philosophical relationship of death and memory in the works of James Joyce. Following graduation he worked as a Lecturer and Advisor for the Liberal Arts Honors Programs at UT and coordinated the Humanities degree plan for three years. During the academic years 2003-05 he was a visiting professor at the University of Bologna for the Scuola Superiore di Lingue Moderne per Interpreti e Traduttori. While in Italy, he also taught Humanities courses for the UT Study in Italy program in Castiglion Fiorentino. Recently he was responsible for translating the official web site of the University of Bologna which received national recognition as the best bi-lingual Italian university web site. He has presented numerous papers at international James Joyce conferences including the Centennial Bloomsday Symposium in Dublin, 2004. His dissertation has been optioned for publication by the University of Bologna for Fall, 2005. Currently he is a Curator in academic affairs for the Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center at UT.

Rochelle Kraus

After receiving her Master of Arts degree in 1997, Rochelle Kraus worked at the French Embassy Trade Office in New York. As the Senior Trade Attache in charge of the Fashion Accessories and Perfume and Cosmetics sectors, she advised and consulted French companies exporting to the United States. Rochelle specialized in assisting promising small and medium-sized businesses to enter the US markets by initiating customer research, mapping and facilitating distribution strategies, and negotiating the complex customs and trade laws.

She left the Trade Office in December, 2003 and is currently living in Austin, staying at home full time with her 10 month old son, Noah. She is the current president of the Round Rock chapter of Hadassah, the Women’s Zionist Organization of America. She has been married to Dan Kraus since 2002.
Isaac Rosler

Isaac Rosler received his Ph.D. in 1996. In 1995, he accepted a tenure track position at Dowling College, Long Island, and is now Associate Professor of Romance Languages and Humanities. He has taught Hispanic Literature and Culture to graduate and undergraduate students, as well as Italian Grammar, Humanities, and a Senior Seminar entitled Communities and its Discontents. For the past two years, he has been the Chair of Foreign Languages at Dowling, he was Secretary of the Faculty (2000, 2002), and for the last nine years the Advisor for the International Club.


Attention Alumni: We encourage you to share your accomplishments, personal and professional, with us. Please send us your updates for publication in the next newsletter. Email: complit@ccwf.cc.utexas.edu

New Comparative Literature Faculty

Karen Grumberg, Assistant Professor of Middle Eastern Studies. Graduate work at the University of California, Los Angeles. Languages: Hebrew, French. Research interests: contemporary Hebrew literature; American Jewish literature, comparative Jewish literatures, Mizrahi writing, women’s writing in Israel. Recent courses: Survey of Exile in Hebrew Literature, Bible to the Present; The Sacred and the Secular in Jewish Literature from France, Israel, and the U.S.; Mizrahi Writing in Israel; Love and the State in Contemporary Israeli Literature; Post-Zionist Perspectives in Israeli Literature and Film; Postmodernist Israeli Literature; Jerusalem in Israeli Literature.

Sabine Hake, Professor of Germanic Studies, Texas Chair of German Literature and Culture. Graduate work at the University of Hannover. Languages: German, French. Research interests: late nineteenth- and twentieth-century cultural history and theory; German cinema, literature, and the other arts; the modern novel; German cultural studies; critical theory; feminist theory. Recent publications: Take Two: German Cinema of the Fifties (co-edited with John Davidson); Film in Deutschland: Geschichte und Geschichten ab 1895; “F. W. Murnau’s The Last Laugh” in The Companion to Weimar Cinema (ed. Noah Isenberg); “Imagining the New Berlin: Mass Utopia and the Ideology of Form in Northern Light/Northern Darkness (ed. Richard McCormick).

Jeffrey Walker, Professor of Rhetoric. Graduate work at the University of California, Berkeley. Languages: French, Classical Greek, Latin, Japanese. Research interests and recent courses: rhetorical theory; history of rhetoric; rhetoric and poetics; rhetorical pedagogy and the teaching of writing; American literature; American and modern poetry; classical studies; comparative literature.

New Program Coordinator

Susan Harwood Kaczmarczik received her Bachelor of Music degree from the University of Texas, majoring in Applied Orchestral Instruments. This fall she will enter the MA program in the School of Information.
Marina Alexandrova participated in Duke-UNC SEELRC Summer Institute for Instructors of Slavic and Eastern European Languages in July, 2004. She presented a talk entitled “Bringing Technology into the Language Classroom” at the Slavic Studies Seminar at UT in October, 2004. She also presented a paper entitled “Teaching Culture through Russian Popular Songs” at the SCMLA in October, 2004.


Katherine Arens received a Lucia, John, and Melissa Gilbert Teaching Excellence Award in Women and Gender Studies from the Center for WGS at UT in 2004. She also received a 2004-2005 Liberal Arts Instructional Technology grant for the revision of two undergraduate film courses. She published “Said’s Colonial Fantasies: How Orientalism Marginalizes Eighteenth-Century Germany” in Herder Jahrbuch. Her other recent publications include the peer reviewed chapters “Central Europe’s Catastrophes on Film: The Case of István Szabó” and “Beyond Vienna 1900: Habsburg Identities in Central Europe,” both in A History of the Literary Cultures of East Central Europe: Junctures and Disjunctures in the 19th and 20th Centuries, Vol. 1, and “Austria and the Central European Imagination after 1989: ‘The Balkins Begin at the Gürtel’” in Vol. 2.


Daniela Bini was invited to give talks at the Casa Italiana Zirilli-Marimò in New York in October and at the International Conference on Luigi Pirandello in Sicily in December. She gave the Cisafulli Lecture at the Catholic University in Washington DC and gave a paper at the American Association for Italian Studies Conference at UNC, Chapel Hill.

Marc Bizer has been offered an appointment as a Humanities Institute faculty fellow to participate in the 2005-06 seminar, “Remembering and Forgetting, Collecting and Discarding.” He also gave papers entitled “Garnier’s La Troade between Homeric Fiction and French History: The Question of Moral Authority,” at the Renaissance Society of America Annual Meeting in April, 2005, and “Anne Dacier’s Homer and the Transmission of Family Values” at the Society for French Historical Studies Annual Meeting in 2004.


Sung-Sheng Yvonne Chang published *Literary Culture in Taiwan: Martial Law to Market Law* in Fall, 2004. Her other recent publications include “The Terrorizer and the Great Divide” in *Contemporary Taiwan’s Cultural Development* and “Twentieth-Century Chinese Modernism, the Globalizing Modernity, and Three Auteur Directors of Taiwan New Cinema” in *Geo-Modernisms: Race, Modernism, Modernity*. She also presented several conference papers and participated in a Roundtable Session at the 2004 Association for Asian Studies Convention.


Alan Friedman received an Honorable Mention from Digital Education Achievement Awards in the Student-Focused Application category in 2004 for his web site for UT’s Center for Shakespeare Studies. He published a book, *Party Pieces: Joyce, Beckett and Performance* and several articles, including “Beckett and Music” in *Etudes Anglaises* and “Vying for Centerstage in Endgame” in *Samual Beckett’s Endgame*.

Michael Gagarin has been Acting Chair of the Classics Department during 2004-05. He gave the Constantine Lecture entitled “Why Did the Greeks First Write Laws?” at the University of Virginia. He also gave papers on “Correct Argument in the Sophists and Early Orators” at a conference in Rethymno, Crete, and on “Rationality and Relevance in On the Crown” at the CAMWS meeting in April.


Karen Grumberg published “Places of Possibility in Allegra Goodman’s *Kaaterskill Falls* and *Paradise Park*” in *Jewish Women’s Writing of the 1990s and Beyond in Great Britain and the United States*. She presented papers entitled “Orly Castel-Bloom’s Tel Aviv” at the Association for Jewish Studies conference in December, 2004, and “On Interpretation: Modern Hebrew Literature” at the Junior Scholars Colloquium at Sde Boker, Israel, in October, 2004.

Susanne Hafner published her book *Maskulinität in der höfischen Erzählliteratur* in Fall, 2004. She received a Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center Fellowship in 2004 for her work on “Abbot Ellinger and his manuscript HRHRC 29” and a SCMLA Stipend for manuscript research at the Bayerische Staatsbibliothek in Munich in 2005. Her work on *Glossa Extraordinia: A Bilingual Medieval Website* is being supported by a FAST Tex Grant for 2004, and a LAITS Grant for 2005. She will also be a Mellon Fellow at the Medieval Institute at the University of Notre Dame to work on her second book, *Virgilian Masculinities: Medieval Readings of the Aeneid*.
Sabine Hake joined the Department of Germanic Studies in Fall, 2004, as the first Texas Chair of German Literature and Culture. She gave several scholarly lectures at Bryn Mawr College, Swarthmore College, Texas A&M, and public lectures at the Neue Galerie in New York, the Cinegraph Filmfest in Hamburg, and the European film festival in San Antonio. She also published articles on anti-Americanism in East German cinema, the relationship between advertising and the avant-garde in 1920s visual culture, and the writings of Joseph Roth on Weimer Berlin.

Barbara Harlow directed the fourth annual Sequels Symposium in April.


Tony Hilfer presented a paper entitled “The Nothing that Is: Nature as Protagonist in The Open Boat” at the Hawaii International Conference on Arts and Humanities in January, 2005.

Crystal Kurzen presented papers entitled “Autobiographical Constructions: Resistance Through Pregnancy and Birth Narratives in Imaginary Parents” by Sheila Ortiz Taylor and Sandra Ortiz Taylor” at the National Association for Ethnic Studies conference, “The Case of Manipulated Diary in Child of the Dark by Carolina Maria de Jesus” at the Texas Brazilianists conference in February, 2005, and “Collaborative Autoethnography: The Relationship Between Subject/Object Position and Her Call for Social Action” at the Colloquium on Hispanic and Luso-Brazilian Literatures and Romance Linguistics at UT.

Naomi Lindstrom published her book Early Spanish American Narrative in Fall, 2004. She presented papers entitled “La mujer en el espacio de la ciudad: la narrativa de Alicia Steimberg” at the Latin American Jewish Studies Associations, “Woman in the Urban Space: Teresa de la Parra” at the Latin American Studies Association, and “The Critical Discovery/Construction of Judaic Traces Lispector’s Narrative” at the 2004 MLA. She published “The Heterogeneous Jewish Wit of Margo Glantz,” in Memory, Oblivion, and Jewish Culture in Latin America. Recently, she was invited to join the Latin American Advisory Council of the Center for Jewish History in New York.

Carol MacKay delivered papers entitled “Women’s Rights, Women’s Writing” to the Oxford Roundtable, Lincoln College and “Autodidacticism and Self-Representation: Annie Beant for the Defense” to the Conference for the Association for the Study of Law, Culture, and the Humanities. She received a Faculty Research Award for her forthcoming publication of Annie Besant’s Autobiographical Sketches.

Christopher Micklethwait helped organize the first GRACLS conference, at which he chaired a panel on “minor” literary modernisms and presented on the modernist translation project of Syrian poet Adonis and his journal Sh’ir. He was also nominated to run as the graduate student delegate to the MLA National Assembly.

Amena Moinfar presented papers entitled “A Tortured Silence for Human Dignity: Henri Alleg’s The Question as an Epitome of Tortured/Torturer Dialectics During the Algerian War” at the GRACLS conference in October, 2004, “Becoming ‘Las Mariposas’: The Struggle for Modernity in Julia Alvarez’s In the Time of the Butterflies” at the WGS conference at UT, and “Penser l’impensable: Assia Djébar et la féminisation de la Guerre d’Algérie” at the FIGS conference at UT.
Timothy Moore has published three articles on Roman Comedy in the last year. He has also spoken on the nature and use of song in the plays of Plautus and Terence at the University of Iowa and in Freiburg, Germany, and on Plautus’ *Curculio* as part of the Lecturae Plautinae Sarsinates in Sarsina, Italy. He has received grants from UT and the Loeb Classical Library Foundation for his forthcoming book on Roman dramatic music.

Adam Zachary Newton was appointed Jane and Roland Blumberg Centennial Professor in English this past year. His fourth book, *The Elsewhere: On Belonging at a Near Distance*, is scheduled for release in May, 2005. With the help of a Dean’s Fellowship in the Fall, he will begin work on his new project, “To Make the Hands Impure: Art, Scripture, and Ethical Adventure.” He will be presenting at various conferences in the coming academic year, including MLA, AJS, and AAR, and has recently been asked to fill the “poiesis” slot for the Society and Journal for Textual Reasoning.

Jenny Philips presented papers entitled “Edible Ecstasy: Subverting the Sacraments in Lazarillo de Tormes” at the Romance Studies Colloquium and “Simply Foolish?: Delusions, Intentions, Reality and Fiction in the Criticism and Text of Don Quijote” at the GRACLs conference in October, 2004. She also co-chaired the FIGS conference in March.

Hana Pichova was invited to give talks entitled “Vladimir Nabokov’s Art of Lepidoptera” at Trinity University and “The Betrayal of Mirrors” at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. She also presented a paper entitled “Defenestrations: Why in Prague” at the AAASS Conference in Boston in 2004.

Sarah Ponichtera is revising several entries for the Yiddish Literature section of the *Encyclopedia Judaica*, which will be published in 2006.

Guy Raffa published “‘Io amo New York’: Calvino’s Creatively Chaotic City” in *Science and Literature in Italian from Dante to Calvino* in 2004. He gave lectures entitled “Danteworlds: A Visual Journey through Dante’s Afterlife” at Iona College in April, 2004 and “Dante’s Dialectical Poetics of Exile” at Harvard in May, 2004. He also received a UT Faculty Research Grant for his project “Creative Chaos: Scientific Muses in Italian Literature.”

Cory Reed received a Dean’s Fellowship at UT and a grant from the Spanish Ministry of Culture for his forthcoming book *Scientific and Technological Imagery in Don Quijote: Metaphors of Modernity*. He presented a paper on scientific and technological imagery in Don Quijote at the Southern California Cervantes Symposium and published an article entitled “Ludic Revelations in the Enchanted Head Episode in Don Quijote” in *Cervantes*.

Elizabeth Richmond-Garza continues as the president of Alpha of Texas Chapter of Phi Beta Kappa and presented papers at the SCMLA on Oscar Wilde and at the ACLA on Chechnya and Orientalist imagery in contemporary Moscow theatre. She is co-chairing, with Dragan Kujundzic of UCI, the Derrida memorial plenary session, “A-venir: Future Hospitality of Jacques Derrida,” for the SCLA meeting in Houston in September.

Matthew Russell served as a graduate student representative on the board of the American Comparative Literature Association.
Laura Sager spent three weeks in Middlebury, VT, where she completed a “Graduate Certificate in Technology and Language Teaching.” She presented a paper entitled “Films about Novels about Paintings: The Public and the Private Roles of Art in Girl in Hyacinth Blue and Brush with Fate” at the First Annual GRACLS Conference in October and published a paper entitled “German Expressionism and the Spanish Avant-garde: Recontextualizing F. García Lorca’s Poeta en Nueva York,” in the Revista de Estudios Hispanicos.


Martha Ann Shelby received a Literature Fellowship for translation from the National Endowment for the Humanities. She is currently the Walter Jackson Bate Fellow at the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Studies, Harvard University.

Hélène Tissières received a Research/Lecturer Fulbright grant with the University Cheick Anta Diop in Dakar, Senegal for 2003-2005. She published “DAK’ART 2004: Biennial of Contemporary Art, 7 May-7 June, Dakar, Senegal” in Research in African Literatures and “Représentation et écriture au Sénégal: deux peintres, Abdoulaye Ndoye et Chalys Lèye, à la croisée des arts” in Ethiopiques. She also presented a paper entitled “The Impact and Contradictions of Visual Representations in Senegal” at the ALA.

Vessela Valiavitcharska spent Spring, 2004 in Vienna, doing research, and she recently celebrated the birth of her daughter, Anna Elena.

Jennifer Wilks published the article, “La mulâtresse nègre: Exoticism and the Gaze in Suzanne Lacascade’s Claire-Solange, âme africaine” in MaComère. She was a session chair and respondent for the panel, “Modeling Minorities: Countering Twentieth-Century Racial Schooling,” at the 2004 meeting of the American Studies Association. She presented a paper, “Gender, Geography, and Nation: Black Modernist Women at the Parisian Crossroads,” at the 2004 meeting of the MLA, where she also co-organized a session entitled “From Philadelphia to Paris: Jessie Fauset’s Cosmopolitan Geographies.”

Helena Woodard was appointed Faculty Fellow for The Humanities Institute this year. Her recent publications include the chapter “Troubling the Archives: Reconstituting the Slave Subject” in Revisiting Slave Narratives / Les avatars contemporains des récits d’esclaves (2005) and a review of Elizabeth McHenry’s Forgotten Readers in Library Journal (2004).

Dafydd Wood delivered a paper entitled “Cruelty and Our Troubled History: It is Hard to Live with Us” at the GRACLS conference in October, 2004, where he also chaired the panel “Sex and Violence: Politics of the Paroxystic in Art and Culture.”

Li Yang presented a paper entitled “Cross National and Aesthetic Boundary: Reading Ang Lee’s Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon” at the 2004 ACLA conference where it was nominated for the Horst Frenz Prize. She also presented a paper entitled “Sexuality between the Public and the Private: Contemporary Discourse of College Student Sex in Urban China” at the UT Graduate Student Conference of Asian Studies in October 2004.
Second Annual GRACLS Conference
Pounce!
Predators, Parasites, and Critics: Interdisciplinary Approaches to Living Off Others.
October 7th and 8th, 2005

Keynote Speaker Dr. Avital Ronell, Professor of Germanic Language and Literatures and Comparative Literature at New York University

This year’s conference seeks papers that address various aspects of predation and predatory behaviors as they may be interpreted through art, literature, politics, theory, and other interdisciplinary approaches.

If you are interested in presenting a paper at the conference, the deadline for abstracts of 200-300 words is May 31, 2005.

For more information, please visit the Program’s web site:
http://www.utexas.edu/cola/depts/complit/gradconf/