Letter from the Director

Dear Colleagues,

It is with particular pleasure and gratitude that I write to thank our vital and ambitious program for allowing me to continue as director for another four years and to say that I look forward to continuing my service both locally and nationally as the CAO for the ACLA, which has been housed within our program since 2002. At a moment in humanistic studies when interdisciplinarity and comparatism occupy a central role in the study of literature and culture across the campus and across the disciplines, we have an especially valuable role to play for ourselves and for our colleagues.

This year’s successes have built upon those of previous years, with distinguished accomplishments by both faculty and students, who continue to receive well-deserved praise for their intrepid research and commitment to teaching. This year’s successes in job placements and record of awards would be striking even in a far larger program. The strength of the program has a great deal to do with the wise and generous guidance of Dr. Alexandra Wettlaufer whom I wish to thank personally on behalf of the program for having served as our graduate adviser for the past two years.

Once again, the graduate student conference held last October was the year’s focal point. It brought not only scholars and researchers from around the country and overseas together to share their research but also, with Dr. Avital Ronell’s inspiring keynote address, welcomed more than 150 people from the campus and the community to think about what it means to be hospitable, to be human, and to read literature. Each year we seem to add pages, and I hope that you will enjoy reading about the work that members of our program do here in Austin and around the world and that you may even be able to participate in some of the events planned for 2006-07 including joining Dr. David Damrosch for our conference on “Comparative Literature Out In the World.”

Elizabeth Richmond-Garza
Incoming Graduate Students

The incoming class of 2006 is a diverse group of young scholars with a broad range of interests and experience. **Anthony Arroyo**, a graduate of UCLA, will be working in Portuguese, Spanish and English, with a focus on Inter-American and Post-Colonial literatures. **Pearl Brilmyer** is from the University of Scranton as a pre-emptive fellow. Pearl will pursue her studies here in French, English and German literature and philosophy. **Saikat Maitra** is a student of Anglo-Irish and Bengali literatures, specializing in Post-Colonial theory and literature. He has a BA and MA from Jadavpur University in Calcutta, and an MA in Comp. Lit. from the University of Western Ontario. **Banafsheh Madaninejad** has a degree from University of Houston and has done graduate work in the Government Dept. and MES at UT. Banafsheh works in Farsi, Arabic, English and French with a focus on philosophy and religion. **Johanna Sellman** has a BA in French from Carleton College and an MA in MES from UT. Her areas of interest are autobiography, theatre and poetry in North Africa, the Middle East and France. **Simone Sessolo** is a graduate of the University of Padua and received his MA in English from the University of Kansas. He hopes to pursue his studies of the influence of Italian literature and culture on modern writers in English. **Elana Thurston-Milgrom** graduated from Occidental College with a degree in English and Comp. Lit. She will work on Central European literature, specializing in Czech, German and Jewish Studies.

The 2006 admissions committee consisted of Pascale Bos, Yvonne Chang, Mo Ghanoonparvar, Tony Hilfer, Naomi Lindstrom, Wayne Rebhorn, Elizabeth Richmond-Garza, César Salgado, Alexandra Wettlaufer, and Lynn Wilkinson. --Alexandra Wettlaufer

Note from GRACLS

I am the second president of GRACLS to be officially elected. I’m following in the footsteps of Marina Alexandrova, who was president during last year’s Pounce! Conference, sponsored by GRACLS. Marina was quite a force during her tenure. She made sure GRACLS got funding from the UT administration, and worked to organize meetings that would guide the direction of the GRACLS conference.

I’m happy to announce that GRACLS has been reapproved for funds by the Office of the Dean of Students for this year. With these funds, we can sponsor brown-bag talks or symposia. Speaking of symposia, it looks like we will also be involved—albeit on a scaled-down basis—with a Comparative Literature symposium next year featuring Columbia professor David Damrosch. Our Program Chair, Elizabeth Richmond-Garza, has agreed to organize the symposium and bring Damrosch to campus. A GRACLS meeting last winter showed great enthusiasm among our ranks for this idea.

There has also been talk of getting GRACLS involved in the mentorship of incoming students. Navigating one’s way through graduate school in a program—rather than a department—can be a tricky business, and I hope we can do a better job of pairing incoming students with veterans in terms of academic—and non-academic—interests.

Secretary: Nandini Dhar
Treasurer: Chris Micklethwait
Social Coordinator: Dayfdd Wood
Publicity Committee: Heather Latiolais

-- Russell Cobb
Undergraduate Courses

CL 315
Introduction to World Literature
Elizabeth Richmond-Garza

CL 323
Caribbean Literature
Jennifer Wilks

Classical Islamic Studies
Hina Azam

Hans Christian Andersen
Claus Elholm Andersen

Introduction to Arabic Literature
Samer Ali

The Qu’ran
Hina Azam

Graduate Courses

CL 180K
Introduction to Comparative Literature:
Proseminar in Methods of Study and Research
Lynn Wilkinson

CL 380M
Literary Translation in Theory and Practice
M.R. Ghanooparvar

CL 381
Latino Joyce
César Salgado

20th Century European Drama: Major Playwrights
and Major Trends
Seth Wolitz

Oscar Wilde and His Circle, 1880-1914
Elizabeth Richmond-Garza

Women on the Verge: Border Crossings in
Women’s Writing of the 19th Century
Alexandra Wettlaufer

CL 390
Contemporary Literary Theory & Poetics
Dolora Wojciehowski

Contemporary Literary Theory & Poetics
Lynn Wilkinson
Degree Recipients

**Master of Arts**

**Andrew Bennett**
*Allegory Revisited: Maryse Conde, Daniel Maximin, and the Re-Animation of Discourse.*

**Serena Ferrando**
*The Other Truth, Diary of an Other: A Translation of Alda Mernini’s L’Altra Verita: Diario di una Diversa.*

**Anna Katsnelson**
*Reimagining Nationalism: Rosa’s Religious Map of Brazil.*

**Tien-Wen Lin**
*The Networking of Fantasy Genre in Taiwan: How Computer-Mediated Communication Technology Influences One’s Literary Experience.*

**Aména Moïnfar**
*Of Mina and Mimicry: Van Helsing’s “God’s Women,” Female Vampirization and Male Anxieties in Bram Stoker’s Dracula.*

**Sarah Ponichtera**
*On the Brink of the Abyss: Aaron Tseytlin’s Brenendike Erd.*

**Jillian Sayre**
*Speaking in Two Voices: Sentimentalism, Science, and Social Space in Clorinda Matto de Turner’s Aves sin nido.*

**Qi Song**
*“Red” Ballet in China: From Revolutionary Model Play to Transnational Commercial Production.*

**Dafydd Wood**
*The Aesthetification of Fascism.*

**Margaret Woodruff-Wieding**
*Sound and Fury in a Madhouse: Weiss’ Enlightenment Project from the Reign of Terror.*

**Doctor of Philosophy**

**Margarita Dimitrova Marinova**
*Visitation Rights (and Wrongs): Americans and Russians Discover Each Other in Narratives of Travel between 1867 and 1905.*

**Lidia Oukaderova**
*The Currency of Representation: Money and Literature in Russia, 1917-1935.*

**Paula Sanmartin**
*“Custodians of History”: (Re)Construction of Black Women as Historical and Literary Subjects in Afro-American and Afro-Cuban Women’s Writing.*

**Douglas Everett Norman**
*Performing That-Which-Will Become: Posthuman and Queer Bodies in the Works of Heinrich Von Kleist and Oscar Wilde.*
Student News and Profiles

Prizes and Fellowships

Continuing Fellowships (2005-2006)

Laura Sager
Hulya Yildiz
Kai-Man Chang

(2006-2007)

Russell Cobb  Continuing Tuition Fellowship
Ingrid Lelos  Miller Student Endowment Fund
Matt Russell  Continuing Fellowship

Other Awards

Carlos Amador  Lozano Long Study Abroad Scholarship
Chris Micklethwait  CASA Award

Pre-Emptive Fellowships

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

Miguel Santos-Neves (2005-2006)
Pearl Brilmyer (2006-2007)

Ms. Naminata Diabate
Third Annual Recipient, Elizabeth Warnock Fernea Endowment Fellowship

Ms. Naminata Diabate joined UT’s Program in Comparative Literature in the fall of 2004 after having 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 has spent the last two years at UT as a Fulbright recipient.

Ms. Diabate received the Fernea for the excellent quality of her Master’s Report, which investigated the possibilities of doing feminist readings of colonial ethnographies that represented African societies, paying close attention to the representation of women within these ethnographies.

Ms. Diabate’s current areas of interest include literature by Francophone and African American women, feminism, and postcolonial theories.
Nandini Dhar has an MA in Comparative Literature from Jadavpur University, India and an MA with a Graduate Certificate in Women’s and Gender Studies from University of Oregon. She is interested in literatures from the Americas, Africa and South Asia. She is also interested in Marxist Literary Theories, Colonial Studies, Feminisms and Critical Race Studies.

Lindsay Henning is a first-year Master’s student. She earned her BA in Spanish and Comparative Literature from the University of Oregon in 2004. Her research focuses on 19th and 20th century Latin American literature, particularly from Mexico and Puerto Rico, as well as literature from the francophone Caribbean.

Mary E. Keefe received her BA in English and History from Georgetown University. She spent her post-collegial years in various editorial capacities in Manhattan publishing, working for Entertainment Weekly, Blackbook magazine, and The New York Times, among other publications. She works in Latin, allegorical readings of The Aeneid, and post-war Japanese film and anime.

Alexei Lalo did his undergraduate studies at the Minsk State Linguistic University (Belarus) majoring in English and minoring in French. He taught cultural studies, American studies and English language and literature at the European Humanities University in Minsk. He received a kandidat nauk degree in philology from the Gorky Institute of World Literature in Moscow in 2002. His interests include American and Russian literature and intellectual history, cultural studies, postcolonial studies and globalization studies.

Heather Latiolas received her BA in French and Art History from Hollins University in May 2005. She is interested in French and English literature, art and architecture of the 19th century. She plans on pursuing a portfolio in Women’s and Gender Studies.

Lanie Millar earned her BA at Baylor University in English and Spanish and her MA in Spanish at Middlebury College in Madrid. She spent two years as a Lecturer in Spanish at Baylor University. Her research interests include 20th century Spanish Latin America, Brazil and the Caribbean, as well as gender and queer theory.

Marcin Rusinkiewicz received his BA in Philosophy and Comparative Literature at Stanford University. Working primarily with early modern literature in Polish and Spanish, his other research interests include 20th century literature, phenomenology, the vernacular and peripheries of all sorts.

Miquel Santos-Neves received his BA from Brown University in European History. He is interested in 20th century American and Latin American literature, and particularly in 19th and 20th century Brazilian literature.

Catherine Thesen earned her BA in English Literature and Psychology at Miami University, Ohio, after which she returned to her home country of Luxembourg where she spent a year tutoring at the elementary and high school level. Her fields of interest lie in existentialist literature and Milan Kundera.
The 2nd Annual GRA-CLS Conference entitled: “Pounce! Predators, Parasites and Critics: Interdisciplinary Approaches to Living Off Others” took place this year on October 7th and 8th. During the two days of conference proceedings, 28 panelists presented in ten panels which examined different manifestations of predation and parasitism in literature, in theoretical practice and in academia. We welcomed graduate students from across the nation and from abroad from many universities. A range of panel topics were addressed, including forgery, plagiarism, postcolonial anxieties, feminine identity, predation and sexuality, academic discourse, and avant-garde culture to name a few. We were fortunate to have in attendance many from the UT community, both students and faculty.

On Friday afternoon in the Prothro Theater of the Harry Ransom Center, Dr. Avital Ronell, Professor of German, English and Comparative Literature and the Director of Research in Trauma and Violence at New York University delivered the keynote address: “Trouble in Parricide or a Parasite Goes Postal.” She spoke to a large and enthusiastic audience; her talk provoked a lively, scholarly discussion.

This conference owes its success to the help of many volunteers and supporters, including GRACLS, Dr. Elizabeth Richmond-Garza, Dr. Katie Arens, Dr. Thomas Garza, Dr. Neville Hoad, Dr. César Salgado, Dr. Jennifer Wilks, Susan Kaczmarczik, Matthew Russell, Marina Alexandrova, Naminata Diabate, Anna Katsnelson, Crystal Kurzen, Christopher Micklethwait, Jillian Sayre, Jennifer Watson, Dafydd Wood. This event would not have been possible without the financial support of the Program in Comp. Lit., the Dept. of English, the Division of Rhetoric and Writing, the Dept. of Germanic Studies, the Dept. of Spanish and Portuguese, the Center for Women’s and Gender Studies, the Center for Eastern European, Eurasian and Russian Studies, the Dept. of Classics, the Teresa Lozana Long Institute for Latin American Studies, the Dept. of French and Italian, the College of Liberal Arts and the Office of Graduate Studies. Many thanks to all.

--Aména Moïnfar and Jenny Philips
2005 Conference Coordinators
Research News

Last fall my paper ““Solar Plexus”: Syncretism of the Visual and Verbal in Elena Guro’s Art” won the 2005 SCMLA prize for the best conference paper in the category “Historical Literary and/or Cultural Studies.” Together with other prize and grant winners, I was recognized at the SCMLA Business Luncheon at the annual conference in Houston, October 27-29, 2005. I will chair the Comparative Literature panel at the 2006 SCMLA conference in Dallas.

In the spring of 2006 I participated in the Preparing Future Faculty (PFF) program. The PFF national initiative is a unique professional development opportunity designed to allow doctoral students to experience various roles and responsibilities they will face in the future as faculty. Under the guidance of a faculty member, a PFF intern observes and participates in a wide array of day-to-day academic activities including teaching, grading, meeting with students, and attending faculty meetings. Thomas Darwin at the Professional Development and Community Engagement Program at UT helps to match interested doctoral students with faculty members at Texas State University, St. Edward’s University, Southwestern University, Austin Community College, and Huston-Tillotson University.

The internship at St. Edward’s University gave me a unique chance to gain insight into the academic environment of a smaller liberal arts university with a student body and academic priorities that differ sharply from those of UT. I was very fortunate to have Dr. Timothy Green, a professor of English at St. Edward’s, as my mentor and guide. Before and during the semester, Dr. Green and I met frequently to discuss the aims and challenges of the course, to design assignments and evaluate students’ progress. Thanks to him, my first-hand experience of an academic career at a liberal arts college was tremendously enriching and positive. During the course of the semester, I taught several classes, organized tutorials for students, participated in a faculty meeting, and facilitated group discussions on Blackboard.

My current research interests include relations between publishing industry and the avant-garde literary circles of St. Petersburg and Buenos Aires during the 1920s. In my dissertation, I am examining the socio-political and cultural premises for the emergence of such uniquely propitious conditions for flourishing of literary and artistic life in these highly Europeanized capitals. The delayed emergence of the public sphere, which began roughly at the end of the nineteenth century in both countries, culminated in the 1920s partly due to the greater availability of foreign literature in translation, the abundance of literary magazines, and the organization of various lectures, performances, and literary evenings open to the general public. The role of publishing companies in fostering of cultural life during that period is crucial. My dissertation proposes to analyze connections between publishers and avant-garde circles, the Serapion Brothers in Russia and Florida and Boedo in Argentina, to reveal similar patterns in cultural processes in Russia and Argentina’s peripheral modernities.

Marina Alexandrova is a doctoral candidate.
Now that I am wrapping up my MA Report entitled “Through Missionary Eyes: 19th Century Boloki Women of the Congo Region in John H. Weeks’ Among Congo Cannibals (1913)”, I have the opportunity to look back over the two years that I spent at the University of Texas at Austin, in the program in Comparative Literature. Awarded with the Fulbright Junior Achievement Scholarship in 2004, I landed in Austin from my native country Ivory Coast in West Africa. The challenges of cultural shock I faced contributed in helping me grow as a person. The most enlightening aspect of my scholarship was the opportunity to engage in Comparative Literary Studies at an institution like the University of Texas at Austin, which is often praised for its high level of instruction.

The program in Comparative Literature creates an environment that makes dreams come true. The cohesion among “complitters” makes it easier for the incoming graduate students. International graduate students especially benefit from the ambiance of camaraderie that helps them feel at home and supported. My own experience is a telling example of that cohesion and unfailing support. Also, the great diversity of nationalities within the student body in the program offers a greater understanding of the world and strengthens the reasons why I engage in comparing literatures that might at first appear unrelated. The overwhelming size of UT with an enrollment of about 50,000 students stands in sharp contrast to the one-on-one attention that is accorded to students in Comparative Literature.

I would like to share an amusing incident and yet one which could have had long-lasting bad consequences if handled differently. All the preparations, guidelines, and information could not save me from experiencing my first cultural faux pas. On August 18th 2004, failure, attributable to the overwhelming size of the campus and the cultural shock, to comply with the university rules and regulations, especially with regards to tuition and fees, I discovered the impossibility of my taking classes because the computers (we all know how they behave, right?) boosted me out of the system to my disbelief. Panicked and with no appointment, I walked in to the Chair of the department’s office and told her my problem. Without words of blame of any kind, she picked up her phone and started inquiring and within minutes, with the appropriate actions I was once again part of the UT student body. This minor/major incident boosted my trust in the program with the firm belief that even thousands of miles away from my home country, I have been successful to find a community that was supportive as well as professional.

Naminata Diabate is a doctoral student entering her third year in the program.
Elena García-Martín

Elena García-Martín received her PhD in 2004. She is currently an Assistant Professor in the Humanities Department at the University of Puerto Rico at Mayagüez. Her dissertation examines the geo-historical impact of Spanish Golden Age theatre since the Civil War era. Since her graduation she has worked as Humanities professor, teaching courses on theatre and Western Culture, and as Associate Director of the Humanities Department, coordinating its Program of Cultural Development. In the last year she has organized the “Symposium for Undergraduate Students of the Humanities” and the community outreach program “A Puertas Abiertas,” a cultural project in collaboration with the city of Mayaguez. She recently presented a paper on modern Puerto Rican performance at the University of Birmingham and published an article on Don Quijote in the periodical *Symposium*. In addition, she is an artistic and academic advisor for the student theatre group TeatRum and has recently become a reviewer for the theatre section of the San Juan newspaper *Claridad*.

Salah D. Hassan

After receiving his PhD in Fall 1997, Salah took a position in the Department of English at Michigan State University in Fall 1998. He was promoted in 2003 to the rank of Associate Professor. He is the associate editor of *CR: The New Centennial Review* and recently edited a special issue of *CR* (Spring 2005) titled “Terror Wars.” He also serves on the editorial committee of *Middle East Report*. He is co-editing a forthcoming issue of *MELUS* (Summer 2006) on Arab American literature. His research and teaching over the last several years have focused on contemporary legacies of imperialism, especially in the Middle East and Africa. Salah has published articles in *Research in African Literature, Journal X, New Formations, Socialism and Democracy*, and *Social Text*. He is currently completing a book on Palestine and postcoloniality.

Marike Janzen

In November, 2005, Marike Janzen successfully defended her dissertation “Messenger Writers: Author Position, the International Left, and the Cold War.” Her areas were German and Latin American (Spanish) literature. She is currently Assistant Professor of German in the Department of Language and Literature at Eastern Mennonite University in Harrisonburg, VA, where she teaches German language courses. In the fall of 2006 she will also be offering a course in German literature at James Madison University in Harrisonburg. She has just published an article entitled “Between the Pedagogical and the Performative: Personal Stories, Public Narratives, and Social Critique in Anna Seghers’s Überfahrt” in *German Quarterly*, and is currently working on revising her dissertation into a book manuscript.

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
Rob Lesman

For the academic year 2005-2006, Rob Lesman is inhabiting a one year replacement position as assistant professor of Spanish at Grinnell College. After struggling through the job search process, netting only a couple of tenure track interviews that didn’t lead anywhere, he found the offer to come to this campus for a year to be attractive. The only expectation of him here at Grinnell has been to teach his classes well. In return, he has been observed in the classroom and gotten useful feedback and a very useful letter or recommendation. For each class below the seminar level, there is a standard syllabus that all professors in the department use and adjust to their strengths and individual philosophies. A common facet in each of these syllabi is rigor. Students are assigned a great deal of work, and he has been expected to push the students hard. He has discovered that both the professors and the students maintain this expectation. It is an unspoken agreement that Grinnell is a place for serious students. This agreement has made it an immense joy to teach there.

Margarita Marinova

Margarita Marinova received her PhD in August 2005, and accepted a tenure-track position as an Assistant Professor in the Department of English at Christopher Newport University in Newport News, Virginia. During her first year she has had the opportunity to teach courses in World Literature (From the Enlightenment to the Present), Freshman Writing, 19th c. Russian Literature in Translation, and East European Writing in Exile. As one of three Comparative Literature faculty in the department, she helped re-design the sequence of World Literature courses to be included in the Global and Multicultural Perspectives category of the university’s new Liberal Learning Core. She is also in the process of creating a new interdisciplinary program that will offer a Minor in Slavic and East European Studies at CNU. Her recent publications include the article “Malevich’s Poetry: A ‘Wooden Bicycle Against a Background of Masterpieces?’” in the Slavic and East European Journal. When she is not busy teaching, program-building or working on turning her dissertation, “Visitation Rights (and Wrongs). Americans and Russians Discover Each Other in Narratives of Travel Between 1867 and 1905,” into a book, she hastens to Chicago to spend time with her husband who is doing a postdoc in theoretical physics there.

Lida Oukaderova

Only two weeks after defending her dissertation in Austin last August, she started teaching at George Washington University in Washington, DC. The transition from graduate school to full-time teaching was both rewarding and stressful. While excited to put what she had learned at UT to work in her courses, she also realized one can never be prepared enough: her dissertation on 20th-century Russian literature didn’t help much in teaching “Introduction to Russian culture from 988 to 1825”! Her department has been very supportive, though, and has encouraged her to design new seminar courses related to her research. This fall she will teach a class on “Money and Culture,” building directly upon her dissertation, and she offered a directed reading course this current term on Russian film. Washington DC has proved a wonderful place to relocate to—her two-year-old son Leo especially loves the National Zoo and Air and Space Museum!
New Comparative Literature Faculty


Guggenheim Fellowship

The project for which Douglas Biow received a Guggenheim fellowship for 2006-2007 is to write a book dedicated largely, though not exclusively, to irreverent, unorthodox, and sometimes difficult, anti-conformist men who often eschewed the niceties of decorum in sixteenth-century Italy. The book--as of the moment--is titled In Your Face: The Art of Being Conspicuous in Sixteenth-Century Italy, and it features such writers and artists as Pietro Aretino, Benvenuto Cellini, Anton Francesco Doni, and Michelangelo Buonarroti. In the meantime, his third book, The Culture of Cleanliness in Renaissance Italy, is due out from Cornell University Press in August or September. This book is interdisciplinary in nature and draws on the work of anthropologists, sociologists, and intellectual and cultural historians. Unlike both of his prior books, however, The Culture of Cleanliness in Renaissance Italy examines not only works of high culture (epic, humanist treatises, and ambassadorial reports), but also works of popular culture (carnival songs, burlesque poems, encyclopedic compendia).
New Graduate Advisor

Dolora Chapelle Wojciehowski is Associate Professor of English at the University of Texas and a longtime affiliate of the Program in Comparative Literature. She did her graduate work at Yale University during the early 80s, the heyday of deconstruction and other interesting developments in literary studies. She received her Ph.D. in Renaissance Studies in 1984. Within that area studies program, her specialty was Comparative Literature. She has studied seven languages, among them French, Spanish, Italian, Latin, and most recently Portuguese. Since coming to the University of Texas in 1985, Chapelle Wojciehowski has taught courses on Shakespeare; Marlowe; intellectual history of the Renaissance and Reformation; women writers in early modern Europe; sixteenth-century travel literature; Star Trek; and many other topics. Chapelle Wojciehowski also teaches courses on literary criticism and theory, including E321K, Introduction to Literary Theory; and E379N, Michel Foucault and the Class of ’68. Chapelle Wojciehowski is the author of Old Masters, New Subjects: Early Modern and Poststructuralist Theories of Will (Stanford and London: Stanford University Press, 1995). Her recent articles include “Literary Theory,” an essay in the recent Oxford Encyclopedia of British Literature, edited by David Scott Kastan (2006); “Francis Petrarch: First Modern Friend” (Texas Studies in Language and Literature, 2005); “Religion, Rivalry, and Relics in 16th-Century Goa: The Destruction and Return of the Dalada” (Manushi, 2004), and “Veronica Franco vs. Maffio Venier: Sex, Death, and Poetry in Cinquecento Venice” (forthcoming in Italica, 2006).

For her current book project, Chapelle Wojciehowski has conducted archival research in Goa, India; Antwerp, Belgium; and Lisbon, Portugal. This book retheorizes the notion of the Renaissance as a European phenomenon by situating it in a global context.

Chapelle Wojciehowski received the Dads’ Association Centennial Teaching Fellowship for 2004-2005, and has been nominated for numerous other teaching awards at the University of Texas, including the Lucia, John, and Melissa Gilbert Teaching Excellence Award (2001). In 2003 under the auspices of the Telluride Association at Cornell University and the College of Liberal Arts at the University of Texas, she helped establish the distinguished Telluride Association Summer Program at UT.

Chapelle Wojciehowski is delighted to participate in the Comparative Literature Program as the Graduate Advisor. “Languages,” she says, paraphrasing one of her students, “are math for word people.” How so? “The combinatory powers of words, languages, thought systems, ideologies, ideas, and intuitions are, in a word, or perhaps two, mind-boggling. What could be more consuming, entertaining, inspiring, and absorbing than Comparative Literature? I welcome the chance to talk to all of the students in this excellent program about their visions of the discipline, and to share my own.” Her long-term goals include learning more languages, especially non-European ones, continuing her research and writing on the global Renaissance, and making a large mosaic on her back patio this summer.
Marina Alexandrova presented her paper “Nature and the City in Elena Guro’s ‘Organic’ Futurism” at the 2005 AATSEEL Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C. in December.

Carlos Amador co-organized a panel at the 2006 ACLA conference on challenges to Donna Haraway’s Cyborg Manifesto, and presented a paper on the Mexican Historical Novel at the Contemporary Mexican Literature Conference in El Paso this year. He will leave us for a semester abroad in Argentina. He won the Lozano Long Study Abroad Scholarship and last year won the LAGR fellowship for a project on the critical edition of José Lezama Lima’s Paradiso, spending a month at the University of Miami’s Cuban Heritage Collection research Lezama Lima’s archive.

Katherine Arens’ book Remapping the Foreign Language Curriculum: A Multi-Literacies Approach (MLA 2005), co-written with Janet Swaffar, appeared this year. She also gave an invited lecture at the University of Houston-Downtown for over 100 social sciences Alumni, entitled “Applied Philosophy: Inventing the Social Sciences” in April 2005. She organized a seminar for the 2006 Princeton ACLA entitled “After the Post-Human, Beyond the ‘Cyborg Manifesto,’” in which she gave a paper “The Call of Cthulu: The Premodern PostCyber Subject.” In addition, she won a Summer, 2006 SCMLA/Mellon Fellowship at the Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center, to use their history of science collections, and a University Research Grant for an assistant to help on the monograph that should grow out of it.

Jeffrey Barnouw gave a public lecture and two seminars for a ‘team’ on classical studies at the National Center for Scientific Research, drawing on his two recent books on things Greek, Homer and the Stoics respectively, while teaching as a Visiting Professor at the University of Paris III--the New Sorbonne last Fall. He also gave a talk to a course at the College International de Philosophie on his current project, the history of Intelligent Design from Francis Bacon to the American Pragmatists. He gave a paper related to that project at the annual meeting of the American Society for 18th-century Studies, in Montreal and another at a small but prestigious conference at the California Institute of Technology in Pasadena.

Daniela Bini served as the chair of the French and Italian Department for her third year. She just received the approval by Dean Richard Lariviere for a graduate program in Italian Studies. The proposal will have to pass several more administrative hurdles before being implemented, hopefully in the academic year 2008-09. She also published several essays: “Art Versus Life in Three Plays by Ibsen, D’Annunzio and Pirandello” in Il Castello di Elsinore; “Why Il fu Mattia Pascal? A Question for Mario Monicelli in the journal of the Pirandello Society of America. The essay was also rewritten and published in Italian as: “Perché Le due vite di Mattia Pascal? Una domanda a Mario Monicelli” in Il fu Mattia Pascal. Romanzo, Teatro, Film; and “Da Tuda a Ilse: Marta, ovvero la rinuncia dell’eros” in I giganti della montagna. Progetto per un film. Finally she was once again invited to the International Pirandello Conference in Agrigento where she presented “Perché Le due vite del fu Mattia Pascal?: Una domanda a Mario Monicelli.”
Marc Bizer presented a paper for the UT Classics Department colloquium, “Just Like Troy? Homer in Renaissance France,” and gave another on “Homer, La Boëtie, Montaigne, and the Duty to Obey” at Princeton University’s “Esprit genereux, esprit pantegruelicq” conference. He was also a fall fellow of the UT Humanities Institute’s 2005-06 seminar, “Remembering and Forgetting, Collecting and Discarding.” Lastly, he will be working this summer on a Liberal Arts Instructional Technology Grant, “Reading Between the Lines: A Text-Centered Approach to Practicing Literary Analysis Online.”

Russell Cobb is traveling to Cuba during the summer of 2006 for research on his dissertation, tentatively titled, “Our Man in Paris: Mundo Nuevo, the Cuban Revolution, and the Politics of Artistic Freedom.”

Nandini Dhar attended the Annual South Asian Conference at University of Wisconsin-Madison in October, where she presented a paper entitled “The Family Trope: Nationalism and Women’s Agency: History and Resistance in Sulekha Sanyal’s Nābānkur: The Seedling’s Tale.” She also presented a paper entitled “The ‘Sacred’ and the ‘Secular’: Gender and Resistance in Rashasundari Devi’s Amar Jiban” at the South Asian Literary Association in Washington D.C. She presented a paper “Try Police Not Huey: Black Panther Party, Resistance and Anti-State Performances” at the Abriendo Brecha III: Activist Scholarship Conference at The University of Texas at Austin in February. Finally, she has also written a review of Stephanie Camp’s Closer to Freedom: Enslaved Women and Everyday Resistance in Plantation South in the e3w Review of Books.

Naminata Diabate presented “Through Missionary Eyes: 19th-Century Boloki Women of the Congo in John H. Weeks’ Among Congo Cannibals” at the GRACLS conference in October. She also attended the Southwest/Texas Popular Culture and American Culture Associations Annual Conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico in February, where she presented a paper entitled “Revisiting the Past/The American Grand Narrative: Ray Gonzalez’s The Ghost of John Wayne and Other Stories.”

Elizabeth Erbeznik presented papers entitled “Deconstructing the Myth of Homogeneity: Purity and Hybridity in the Plays of Jacques Rabemananjara” at the GRACLS conference in October and “Dressing the Odalisque: Representations of Resistance or Appropriations of (An)Other’s Clothes in Leila Sebbar’s Sherazade Trilogy” at the FIGS conference here at UT in April. She also reviewed Doris Garraway’s The Libertine Colony: Creolization in the Early French Caribbean for the e3w Review of Books.
M. R. Ghanoonparvar published *Persian Cuisine: Traditional, Regional and Modern Foods* in 2006. He edited and wrote an introduction to Jalal Al-e Ahmad’s *A Stone on a Grave*. He translated Davud Ghaffarzadegan’s *Fortune Told in Blood*, and co-translated “The Vice Principal” by Hushang Moradi-Kermani. His article, “Mohammad Ali Jamalzadeh,” will be published in *Daneshnameh-ye Bozorg-e Eslami* and a review of Abbas Amant’s *The Pivot of the Universe in Iran Nameh*. His presentations and lectures during the past year include “Hushang Golshiri’s The Book of Jinns, The Persian Ulysses” at the Annual Meeting of Middle East Studies Association; “Hybrid Identities in the Globalized World” at Carleton University in Ottawa; “The Children of Iranian Immigrants” at the Society of Iranian American Women for Education in Houston; and “Iranian-Americans and the Question of Identity” at The University of California, Irvine.

Susanne Hafner’s *Maskulinität in der höfischen Erzählliteratur* has been selected as the book for the 2006 New Books Roundtable by the Society for Medieval German Studies at the 41st International Congress on Medieval Studies at Kalamazoo. She published an article on “Erzählen im Raum: Der Schmalkaldener Iwein” and gave papers at the University of Notre Dame and the Center for Epigraphical and Palaeographical Studies at Ohio State University. In April, she delivered the John Boswell Memorial Lecture at the College of William and Mary. She spent this year as the Mellon Fellow in Medieval Studies at the Medieval Institute at the University of Notre Dame, working on her book on *Virgilian Masculinities: Medieval Readings of the Aeneid*, which was also supported by a Faculty Research Assignment Award and a Special Research Grant.

Barbara Harlow organized the fifth Annual Sequels Symposium, sponsored by the e3w concentration in English, on 30-31 March 2006. Sequels, which features former graduate students who have recently published significant work, this year hosted Laura E. Lyons (PhD English 1993) from the University of Hawai‘i at Manoa and the special issue of *Biography* which she co-edited and Salah D. Hassan (PhD Comparative Literature 1997) from Michigan State University and the special issue of *CR: The New Centennial Review*. *Biography’s* special issue focused on “Personal Effect”: The Testimonial Uses of Life Writing, while *CR* highlighted current discussions of “Terror Wars.” Three graduate student panels on related topics with participation from across the campus, together with a roundtable discussion with Laura and Salah, complemented the keynote presentations by our featured former graduate students.

Andrea Hilkovitz received a Teaching Award in French from the Department of French and Italian.

Crystal M. Kurzen presented a paper entitled “Auto/biographical Relationships: The Trope of Marriage in Imaginary Parents by Sheila Ortiz Taylor and Sandra Ortiz Taylor” at the Annual Southwest/Texas Popular Culture Association & American Culture Association Conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico, and won the Phyllis Bridges Award for Biography. Her review of *Drive: The First Quartet* by Lorna Dee Cervantes will appear in the upcoming issue of *Southwestern American Literature*. 
Marilyn Lehman wrote “Women and Their Work: Reflections on the Amish Church Tradition,” which appeared in the Mennonite Historical Bulletin in October.

Ingrid Lelos had a baby girl, Anastasia Dianne, in April.

Naomi Lindstrom was appointed to the advisory group of the Brazilian and Latin American Study Project, Center for Jewish History and to the editorial boards of Hojas del Cila-vario: Revista de Literatura y de Cultura Argentinas (on-line journal scheduled to begin publication in mid-2006) and Yiddish. She also presented “Latin American Jewish Writing the the U.S.: An Examination of Categories” at the MLA and “Entre los estudios latinoamericanos y lose studios judaicos” at the International Congress of the Latin American Studies.

Lily Litvak was a curator for her art exhibition in Madrid called Luz de gas, La noche y sus fantasmas en la pintura española, 1880-1930. It was open from 11 November 2005 to 15 March 2006 and dealt with Spanish paintings of the night during the mentioned years. She prepared the exhibition and wrote a long and comprehensive essay dealing with the night, modernization and the nocturne in Spain.

Christopher Micklethwait was elected MLA graduate student delegate for the Rocky Mountain region and defended the prospectus for his dissertation “Faits Divers: The Petit Journal and Third-World Modernisms.” He also received the CASA fellowship to study Arabic in Cairo this summer, where he will stay through the fall to begin writing his dissertation.

Lisa Moore published her interdisciplinary study of women’s landscape art, “Queer Gardens: Mary Delany’s Flowers and Friendships,” in the journal Eighteenth-Century Studies (October 2005). She also presented new work at the American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies conference in Montreal in 2006 under the title “The Honied Dew: Sarah Pierce and the Lesbian Landscape Poem.” In Spring 2006, Professor Moore wrote and performed original creative work as a member of The Austin Project, an interdisciplinary collaboration of academics, artists and activists sponsored by the Center for African and African-American Studies. She was nominated this year for a Friar’s Centennial Teaching Fellowship.

Tim Moore continues his work on the nature and role of music in ancient Roman theater. This year he lectured on the topic, as well as on Roman historiography, in the Netherlands, Germany, Canada, and the United States. He published the entry on Petronius for the Literary Encyclopedia, a paper on Livy for the Dutch Classical Association, and an essay on Plautus for the Italian Series, Lecturae Plautinae Sarsinates.

Hana Pichova was involved with “Image and Word in Central Europe,” directed by the Czech Program of the University of Texas at Austin in cooperation with the Prague Film School (FAMU). The courses in film, art history, and architecture explore Prague’s rich cultural history and its vibrant cultural present.
Guy Raffa was elected Vice President of the Dante Society of America for 2005-06. He has two forthcoming book-essays: “Calvino’s Scientific Humanism” in Approaches to the Works of Italo Calvino (Modern Language Association), and “Eco’s Scientific Imagination” in A Cambridge Companion to Umberto Eco (Cambridge University Press).


Elizabeth Richmond-Garza presented “L’empire à rebours: Inversion and Colonization in Huysmans, Stoker and Wilde” at the annual meeting of the MLA and coordinated a 3-day seminar at the annual meeting of the ACLA on “Vampires, Predation and the Proto-/Post-Human.”

Matt Russell was the graduate representative for the American Society of Eighteenth-Century Studies and attended their meeting in Montreal. He was also an assistant director for the Computer Writing and Research Lab at The University of Texas at Austin. In November, he chaired three panels on “Romantic Modernisms” at the Midwest Modern Language Association’s annual conference in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Laura Sager spent the year in Columbia, South Carolina, while on the Continuing Fellowship and writing her dissertation. In December, she presented a paper at the MLA conference in Washington DC. In April, she presented at the meeting of the Popular Culture Association in Atlanta. She also got married (twice actually: the first time in Columbia, the second time in Hamburg, Germany).

Jillian Sayre presented her paper “Necrophilia and Nationalism: The Dead Indian Mother in Clorinda Matto de Turner’s Aves sin nido and Jose de Alencar’s Iracema” at the annual GRACLS conference in October.

Alexandra Wettlaufer organized the 31st Annual Nineteenth-Century French Studies Colloquium at UT in October. The conference centered on the theme of “Histories of Representation/Representations of History,” with over 60 panels and nearly 300 participants from the US, Canada and Europe. She currently serves on the Advisory Board of NCFS and was recently elected to the Board of Interdisciplinary Nineteenth-Century Studies. She will also be an MLA regional delegate beginning in September 2006. This academic year she has published articles in Nineteenth-Century Studies and in George Sand et l’empire des lettres. An article on Flora Tristan and her grandson, Paul Gauguin, will appear shortly in The Romanic Review. She will present a talk on George Sand and the figure of the artist in Dublin this summer. She is currently the Associate Director of the Plan II Honors Program and will be stepping down from her position as Graduate Advisor in Comp Lit.
Lynn Wilkinson received a Dean’s Fellowship which allowed her to make headway on two book manuscripts on women playwrights and modern drama. Her chapter on Strindberg’s Chamber Plays is forthcoming in the Cambridge Companion to Strindberg, and her article, “Anne Charlotte Leffler and Bjørnstjerne Bjørnson’s The Newlyweds” will appear in Tijdschrift voor Skandinavistiek. In October, she delivered a paper entitled “Four Characters in Search of an Auteur: Ingmar Bergman Per Olov Enquist, and The Image Makers,” at the Conference on Film Authorship here at the University of Texas. This fall, she also sponsored talks by two scholars from Sweden as part of the “Sweden Across the Disciplines Series” funded by the Swedish Excellence Endowment.

Jennifer Wilks published two articles, “Writing Home: Comparative Black Modernism and Form in Jean Toomer and Aimé Césaire” in Modern Fiction Studies and “New Women and New Negroes: Archetypal Womanhood in Dorothy West’s The Living Is Easy” in African American Review. In November she presented the paper “Definitional Complications” at the Modernist Studies Association meeting, and she spent the spring on a faculty exchange at the Université de Paris X-Nanterre.

Seth Wolitz published several articles, amongst which were “The Ashkenazic Gaze: Creating the Jewish Art Book” in The Jews of Eastern Europe: Studies in Jewish Civilization, “Fixity of Place and Freedom of Theatrical/Mental Space: Parallels East and West” in Theater and Space, “In Search of Marc Chagall: Review Essay” in Shofar, and “Subaltern Theater: Parallels in Jewish And Bengali Theater” in Ethnicity & Identity: Global Performance. He also spent time in Paris in January researching the Polish painter Henryk Berlewi. He was elected to the Editorial Board of Assaph, the leading academic Journal of Theater in Israel published by Tel Aviv University.

Margaret Woodruff-Wieding is an Adjunct Professor of Humanities and English at Austin Community College, and teaches at least one course every semester. She is also a staff writer on the development team for a Living Newspapers Resource Guide for high school teachers, sponsored by The University of Texas at Austin Humanities Institute.

Marjorie (Jorie) Woods completed her term as chair of the Chaucer Division of the Modern Language Association and has begun serving as a member of the MLA’s Committee on Honors and Awards. She has also been nominated to the senior jury of the Institut Universitaire de France. In November she was Virginia Brown Fellow at the Center for Epigraphy and Palaeography at The Ohio State University and presented a paper on “A Medieval Rhetorical Manual in the Seventeenth Century: The Case of Christian Daum and the Poetria nova” at “Classica et Beneventana: A Symposium to Honor Virginia Brown on the Occasion of her 65th Birthday.” In February she gave at paper at the University of Illinois entitled “Premodern Exercises in the Postmodern Classroom: Prolegomena to a Textbook” sponsored by the Center for Writing Studies.

Li Yang presented “Art Cinema in China?” which was selected as the outstanding graduate student paper at the Southwest Asian Studies Conference in October.
Third Annual GRACLS Conference

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Keynote Speaker Dr. David Damrosch, Professor of English and Comparative Literature at Columbia University

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