

FIS Bulletin(o)

The Newsletter for the Division of French and Italian Studies at the University of Washington

Special points of interest:

- FIS Chair John Keeler accepts position with University of Pittsburgh
- Italian Professor Albert Sbragia chosen as new Chair for the Division of French and Italian Studies
- Graduation Gala

Inside this Issue:

Graduation Gala	2
Graduate Student News	3
Undergraduate News	4
Faculty News	4-5
Advisory Board	5
Donors	6



Image of cherry trees on the quad © UW Photography.

Bon Voyage to Professor John T.S. Keeler

This summer the Division of French and Italian Studies must bid a fond farewell to our current Chair, John T. S. Keeler. Dr. Keeler is leaving the University of Washington to become Dean of the University of Pittsburgh's Graduate School of Public and International Affairs.

In addition to serving as Chair of the Division of French and Italian Studies, Dr. Keeler is also a Professor of Political Science, and serves as Director of the UW's Center for West European Studies and the European Union Center of Excellence. He has been with the University of Washington

since 1980, and has been the FIS Chair for 10 years. Before coming to the UW he taught at Middlebury College in Vermont. Prior to that he received his Master of Arts and PhD degrees in political science from Harvard University. He is a widely recognized scholar of European politics and public policy and has published extensively. Dr. Keeler has also received numerous awards – including the University of Washington's Distinguished Teaching Award in 1992.

Dr. Keeler will be missed by all at FIS, and we wish him the very best!



John Keeler, Chair, Division of French and Italian Studies at his FIS farewell party, June 2007.

FIS Presents the new Chair of FIS, Prof. Albert Sbragia

We are delighted to announce that Albert Sbragia, Associate Professor of Italian and Comparative Literature, will begin a new chapter of his academic career as Chair of the Division of French and Italian Studies, beginning July 2007.

Professor Sbragia began teaching at the University of Washington in 1989, after receiving his doctorate at the University of California, Berkeley. His first book was entitled *Carlo Emilio Gadda and the Modern Macaronic* (University Press of Florida, 1996).

Professor Sbragia has published numerous articles and essays on 19th and 20th Century Italian literature, film, and culture. A more recent book project, *Fellini's Cultural Legacy*

(co-edited with Lance Rhoades) is under review at the University of Illinois Press. Sbragia's essay "Fellini and the Auterurists," will be included in this text. His current research project, *Modernity in Rome*, deals with urbanistic, literary, and visual constructions of the Italian capital from 1870 to the present.

In addition to his writing activities, Professor Sbragia has organized several film-related events, and has given numerous lectures and presentations throughout the United States and abroad. He is an active member of the Italian Studies Advisory Board, whose mission is to increase awareness of Italian Studies in the greater Seattle area and raise funds to benefit students of Italian at the University of



Albert Sbragia, new Chair of FIS Studies, speaking at the FIS Graduation Gala, June 2006.

Washington. He is also a board member and the Film Festival Director for Seattle's Festa Italiana.

Welcome aboard, Professor Sbragia!



FIS Graduation Gala, June 2007.

The Division of French and Italian Studies wishes to thank the following local businesses for their generous gift donations for this year's Graduation Gala:

- ◆ Act Theatre
- ◆ Cranium
- ◆ Madison Park Café
- ◆ Mrs. Cook's
- ◆ Scarecrow Video
- ◆ Seattle Repertory Theatre
- ◆ Tutta Bella
- ◆ Varsity Theatre
- ◆ Wide World Books & Maps

Graduation Gala

In honor of our 2006-2007 graduates, countless rounds of applause! We salute you in the knowledge that immeasurable amounts of energy and dedication have been put forth in earning your degrees from the University of Washington.

In our wish to celebrate the accomplishments of the graduating French and

Italian students the annual Graduation Gala was held at the Waterfront Activities Center. Family and friends of graduating seniors, along with faculty and staff, gathered together to eat, drink, and be merry. Community businesses chipped in with gift certificates for the students with top honors.

We hope that each student will leave the UW with fond memories and a solid education that will serve them long and well in everything they choose to undertake in life.

Warmest regards and best wishes to one and all from Italian and French Studies!!!

-Sabrina Tatta,
Academic Counselor

French Bachelor of Arts Degrees Awarded

Tessia Brienne Altiveros ♠
Tara Shannon Callahan
Avian Bonnie Chung
Kathryn Rene Downing
Irene Renee Genelin
Tara Christie Haiman
Eric Allan Heye
Jay Andrew Holcomb

Kevin John Kotecki
Jennifer Marie Landree ♪
Renee Georgene Lurker
Megan Anne Miller
Christopher M. Perkins
Emily Suzanne Reus
Lisa Renee Rowlett
Monika Maria Salita

Natasha Kay Stasko
Graham Houston Steele
Traci Lynne Sullivan ♪♣
Andrea Jeneyne Warr
Emily Wanda Williams ◆♥
Kathreen Louise Young ◆♠

Italian Bachelor of Arts Degrees Awarded

Joanna Elizabeth Beard
Daina Jordan Byrne

Kiera Rose Clarke * ♪♣
Toni Alexandra Paniagua

Ashley Lynn Scharbach
William Nicholas Steiner

* Department Honors

♥ Summa Cum Laude

◆ Invited to join Phi Beta Kappa

♣ Recognition of Academic Excellence (decided by faculty vote)

♠ Cum Laude

♪ Magna Cum Laude

Master of Arts Degrees Awarded

Virginia Agostinelli – Italian Studies
Valentina Nocentini – Italian Studies
Vicki Wilson – Italian Studies

Graduate Student News: Publications, Presentations, Conferences, & Special Projects

Virginia Agostinelli received her Masters in Italian Studies this June, and will pursue a PhD in Comparative Literature here at the UW next year. Virginia also recently presented a paper at the University of Michigan's "Franker Conference 2007" entitled "Il valore etico-ontologico della letteratura nelle lezioni di Calvino."

Otilia Baraboi (PhD candidate in French Studies) passed her general exams in March 2006 and has participated in several graduate student conferences over the past year.

In April 2006 Otilia presented a paper titled "Cioran: Une «rencontre performative» du Barbare et du Décadent dans l'imaginaire des langues" at Indiana University's Graduate Student Colloquium- "Politics and Persuasion." She also presented "Towards A History of «Performative Encounters»: Assia Djebar's *La disparition de la langue française*" at last year's UW French Graduate Student Association Colloquium. Otilia gave a presentation at FIS's Graduate Student Departmental Colloquium last autumn, titled "A Language Imaginary: Cioran between Ideology and Utopia," and recently received a grant from the UW's Graduate School to attend the upcoming "Culture and Death" summer seminar at the Dartmouth Institute of

French Cultural Studies.

Next year Otilia is planning to present a paper titled "Cioran: The Ethics and Aesthetics of Untranslatability" at the December 2007 MLA conference, and publish "A-ha," an autobiographical text on women's experience under communism in an anthology of literary texts edited by Polirom, Iasi, Romania.

Lisa Connell (PhD candidate in French Studies) will take her exams this May and go on exchange to the Université de Genève for the 2007-2008 academic year. Lisa recently presented a paper titled "Pedagogy, History and the Ethics of Knowledge in Assia Djebar's *L'amour, la fantasia*" at the University of Michigan's "Ethics and Expression" conference held in March. She has also been busy helping to organize the upcoming UW French Graduate Student Association's "Aesthetics and (Self) Deception" conference scheduled for October 12-13, 2007.

Lisa Friedli-Clapié (PhD candidate in French Studies) presented papers at the June 2006 conference of the Conseil International d'Etudes Francophone in Sinaia, Romania, and at the PAMLA conference in Riverside, California.

Her book review of *Camus l'Algérien* by Ali Yédes was published in *La Francofonia* issue 14, 2006 (University of Cádiz, Spain); and her paper "Undercurrents of Mammy Wata Symbolism in Buchi Emecheta's *The Joys of Motherhood*" was published in West Virginia University's *Philological Papers*, issue 53, 2006.

Lisa is also working on a book chapter about Irène Némirovsky's inter-war novels for Amsterdam University Press' *Ecrivains franco-russes* (scheduled for publication in November 2007), and her article "L'Exotisme et la femme féline dans *les Amants de Marrakech* d'Ahmed Ismaïli" is under peer review for publication in *La Relève marocaine: écrivains actuels du Maroc*, Editions la source, Toronto, Canada.

In addition, Lisa has also accepted a Lectureship in English at the University of Versailles St. Quentin-en-Yvelines for the 2007-2008 academic year.

Yuqiu Meng (PhD candidate in French Studies) presented her paper "Ambiguous Surrender: The Death of the *Lady of the Camellias*," at the UW's Division of French & Italian Studies Faculty/Graduate Colloquium last May 2006, and presented

"Le triomphe de la faille humaine, ou pourquoi on ne peut pas ne pas aimer un certain coup de boule," at the Queen's University "La faille" Interdisciplinary Colloquium in Ontario, Canada, May 2007.

Valentina Nocentini received her Masters in Italian Studies this June, and will pursue a PhD in Italian Studies at Columbia University beginning in autumn 2007.

Valentina also attended the Romance Languages Conference at Boston College this March and presented a paper titled- "Due miti inconciliabili: l'insoluta vita di uno scrittore."

Vicki Wilson received her Masters in Italian Studies this June, and recently presented a paper titled "Can a pen and paper be heard?" at the Graduate Students Association of Italian Studies (GSAIS) conference "Diversity, Otherness, and Pluralism in Italian Literature, Cinema, Language, and Pedagogy - Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow," held April 26-28, at the University of Toronto. The conference focused on the perception of otherness and the expressions of diversity in Italian literature, cinema, and language throughout the centuries.

Undergraduate News

Kiera Clarke (B.A. Italian Studies 2007) has been nominated for a Jack Kent Cooke Foundation scholarship. The foundation awards approximately 30 scholarships a year to seniors and recent graduates planning to attend

graduate school. Only two students per university may be nominated — Congratulations Kiera!

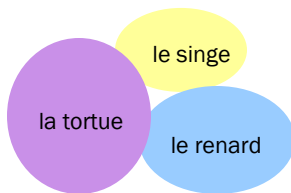
Haley Gindhart, a senior in the Law, Societies & Justice Program, will be the new Rome Center Intern for the 2007-

2008 academic year.

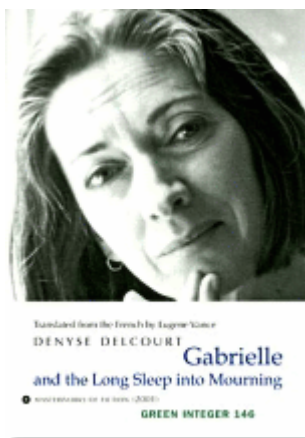
Toni Paniagua (B.A. Italian Studies 2007) was chosen as the faculty assistant for the Rome Center's Law, Societies, & Justice Program this coming autumn.



Kiera Clarke (B.A. Italian Studies, 2007)



French 103 instructors & students at Woodland Park Zoo



Woodland Park Zoo Tour

This spring, French 103 instructors organized a field trip to Woodland Park Zoo in order for students to expand their vocabulary related to animals, their habitat, and their behavior.

In the chapter of *Rond Point* that 103 students were studying, numerous expressions

involving animals were presented (*lent comme une tortue, fort comme un boeuf*, etc.). Instructors thought it would be nice to do something outside of class along those lines. Originally, they expected only 20 to 40 students to sign up, but were surprised when 80 attended! Instructors and students met on a Saturday

morning and took a two-and-a-half hour tour (in French!) guided by the 103 instructors. Each instructor researched various animals and delivered short explanations during the tour.

Students really enjoyed the visit and were also able to expand their vocabulary.

Faculty News: The Midnight Oil

Douglas Collins, Associate Professor, French

“La Giustizia dei pezzi: Decostruzione come psicologia sociale” essay recently appeared in the Italian journal *Stamen: Editoria Scientifica* <<http://www.stamen.net/index.htm>>.

Denyse Delcourt, Associate Professor, French

Denyse’s novel *Gabrielle au bois dormant* was released in English this winter. It was translated by Eugene Vance (Professor Emeritus, French) under the title: *Gabrielle and the Long Sleep into Mourning*, and published by Green Integer Books.

Susan Gaylard, Assistant Professor, Italian

Presented “Dressing and Undressing Literary Authority in Aretino’s Letters” at the Renaissance Society of America, 53rd Annual Meeting, Miami (March 2007); and presented “Ideal Woman? Lucretia from Livy to Lorenzo Lotto” at the American Association of Italian Studies Annual Meeting, Colorado Springs (May 2007).

Susan has two articles under review: “Correcting Cicero: Castiglione’s reevaluation of *De orator*,” and “Naked Truth: Clothing and poetic genius in

Aretino’s letters.”

She was also awarded one of five Royalty Research Funds for the 2007-2008 academic year and in June received an Modern Language Quarterly Travel Grant for research in England.

John Keeler, Chair, French & Italian Studies

Chair of the European Union Studies Association (EUSA), 2005-2007; Member of Editorial Board, *Comparative Political Studies*, 1990-present; Member of Editorial Board, *Comparative European Politics*, 2002-present; Member of International Advisory Board, *French Politics*, 2002-present.

Louisa Mackenzie, Assistant Professor, French

Presented “The Poetry of Place/The Place of Poetry” at the 60th annual Kentucky Foreign Language Conference, Lexington, KY, April 19-21, 2007. Louisa was also invited to give a talk titled “The Poet and the Cartographer” at the Irvin Colloquium of the University of Miami, Ohio, 1-3 November 2006.

Book Reviews:

- ◆ *Lyrics of the French Renaissance: Marot, Du Bellay, Ronsard* ed. and tr. Norman R. Shapiro. *Renaissance and*

Reformation (forthcoming).

- ◆ *Le Sang embaumé des roses: Sang et passion dans la poésie amoureuse de Pierre Ronsard* by Marc Carnel. *French Review* (forthcoming).
- ◆ *La syrinx au bûcher* by Françoise Lavocat. *Renaissance Quarterly* 59 (2006).

Claudio Mazzola, Senior Lecturer, Italian

Presented “Pareveä morto m e’solo svenuto: Il nuovo cinema italiano” at the AAIS Conference, Colorado Springs, May 2007.

Published “Immigration in the Post-Industrial Age,” a chapter in *Zoom in, Zoom out: Crossing Borders in Contemporary European Cinema*, eds. Sandra Barriaes-Bouche and Marjorie Attignol Salvodon, Cambridge Scholars Press, 2007.

Hedwige Meyer, Senior Lecturer, French

Organized the “Task-based Language Teaching Conference” held at the UW Seattle campus November 4th. The conference focused on the practical and theoretical aspects of task-based learning; foreign language instructors from local high schools, community colleges and universities attended.

The Midnight Oil (continued)

Conference presenters included Klaus Brandl, Senior Lecturer, Scandinavian Studies; Paul Aoki, Director, Language Learning Center; and Rachel McCoy, Editor of *Rond-Point*. Prentice Hall sponsored the event.

Presented "Introduction to Task-Based Language Teaching" at the University of Puget Sound, Tacoma, March 16, 2007; and "The Task-Based Classroom," at the Prentice Hall World Languages Symposium, Chicago, March 2, 2007.

Ruggero Taradel, Lecturer, Italian

Presented "La Città Eterna." A series of eight lectures on the history of Rome for the Italian Studies Abroad Program at the UW's Rome Center:

- ◆ *Roma Caput Mundi*. Ancient Rome from the Republic to the Empire
- ◆ *Iubilaeum*. Rome in the Middle Ages
- ◆ San Francesco d'Assisi. Art and Spirituality in Medieval Italy
- ◆ *Tu est Petrus*. The Papacy and the Vatican
- ◆ The Vatican Museums. *La Cappella Sistina e le Stanze di Raffaello*
- ◆ *Roma Lcuta, Causa Finita*. The Council of Trent and

the Counter-Reformation

- ◆ *O Roma o Morte!* The Roman Question in the XVIII and XIX centuries
- ◆ "*L'Italia ha finalment il suo impero*." Fascism and Rome in the XX century.

Journal article:
"Jacques Maritain and the Mystery of Israel (*Jacques Maritain e il mistero d' Israele*)."
Published in December 2006 on the on-line Italian Journal of Philosophy and Theology *Dialeghestai*. The second part of the essay will be published in June 2007.

Book review:
"*The Blood Libel between History and Legend. Reflections on the Toaff Case (L'accusa del sangue tra storia e leggenda. Riflessioni sul caso Toaff)*." Published in March 2007 on the website *Morasha*.

Giuseppe Tassone, Lecturer, Italian

Worked on the new Italian Advisory Board web site (with technical assistance from Betsy Roland, Shane Fricks, and Jennifer Keene)
<www.italianboard.washington.edu>.

Organized lectures by Indiana University professor Edoardo Lebrano, "Garibaldi and Lincoln: A Missed Opportunity," and

"L'epica a Firenze nell'età di Lorenzo il Magnifico" (Epic poetry in Florence at the time of Lorenzo the Magnificent). Assisted Giuseppe Leporace with coordination of the Italian 100-level program, and will assume coordination of the program during Leporace's sabbatical quarter.

Italian: A Self-Teaching Guide—3rd edition Wiley (work in progress).

Sabrina Tatta, Lecturer, Italian; & Academic Counselor

Sabrina was invited to join the UW's Undergraduate Academic Advising Council (UAAC). The UAAC is an advisory committee convened by the Vice Provost and Dean of Undergraduate Academic Affairs in response to the recommendation of the Provost's Committee on the Organization of Colleges and Schools. The UAAC is chaired by the Vice Provost/Dean and is composed of undergraduate academic advisers from across the UW's Seattle Campus. Sabrina will represent the College of Arts & Sciences' language and literature departments.

Law, Societies & Justice Program in Rome Co-Director (Early Fall, C-term); and guest instructor of Italian for various early fall programs.

Geoffrey Turnovsky, Assistant Professor, French

"Confrontations with Rousseau's Historiographical and Pedagogical Legacy," a review of Antoine Lilti, *Le Monde des salons: sociabilité et mondanité à Paris au XVIIIe siècle* and Alain Viala, *Lettre à Rousseau sur l'inérêt littéraire*, in *Eighteenth-Century Studies* 40:1 (Fall 2006): 124-126.

Presented "How to Publish *Esprit* in Early Modern France, and Why," Kentucky Foreign Language Conference, Lexington, KY, April 2007.

Geoff also received a course development grant for summer 2007 from the Center for West European Studies.

Eugene Vance, Professor Emeritus, French

Translation of Associate Professor Denyse Delcourt's novel, *Gabrielle au bois dormant*, released in October 2006 as *Gabrelle and the Long Sleep into Mourning*. Published by Green Integer Books.



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Division of French and Italian Studies
University of Washington
Box 354361
Seattle, WA 98195-4361

Phone: 206-616-3486
Fax: 206-616-3302
E-mail: frenital@u.washington.edu
Web: <http://depts.washington.edu/frenital/>

The faculty of the Division of French and Italian Studies is committed to the advancement of knowledge in our field through research and publication, the education of our students through high quality teaching and advising, the effective administration of our unit and service to our profession and the community. Please visit the FIS web site to find out more about the various programs and activities of our unit.

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Please contact Jennifer Keene at frenital@u.washington.edu if you would like your name to be listed in a different format in the future.

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