

department of
romance
languages and
literatures



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Things are off to a busy start in RLL—1045 students are enrolled in our concentration level classes, and over 2500 students are taking language classes in French, Italian, Portuguese or Spanish this fall. The Comité Francophone, the Spanish Club, and Italianissimo are meeting for conversation hours, films, and other events, and this fall Bruno Latour, of the École nationale supérieure des mines in Paris, will give the Keniston Lecture on October 26. Professor Frederick De Armas will visit on November 11 to celebrate the 400th anniversary of the publication of the first part of Don Quixote, and our graduate students are sponsoring the annual Fraker Conference on November 18 and 19.

Our faculty have been busy, too, and we've recorded some of their accomplishments on page five. We're especially proud to announce three prizes: Assistant Professor of French Alain Mabanckou has been awarded the 2005 Prix des Cinq Continents de la Francophonie and the Prix Radio France Outre Mer du Livre 2005 for his novel, *Verre cassé*; Associate Professor of Spanish Enrique García Santo-Tomás has received the 2005 Premio de Ensayo Villa de Madrid for his book *Espacio urbano y creación literaria en el Madrid de Felipe IV*; and Professor Emeritus Ross Chambers's 2004 book, *Untimely Interventions: AIDS Writing Testimonial & the Rhetoric of Haunting*, won the 2005 University Press Award.

It is a great pleasure to welcome two new faculty members: Professor Kate Jenckes joins us as Assistant Professor of Spanish; she comes to us from a teaching position at Rice University. Paulina Alberto joins us in a joint appointment with the History Department as Assistant Professor of Spanish and Portuguese. You can read more about them on page four.

Please stop by the department if you're ever in Ann Arbor—we'd love to say hello and show you around.

with best wishes,

Peggy McCracken
Chair

Check us out on the web: www.lsa.umich.edu/rll

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- Associate Chair:** Jarrod Hayes
- Graduate Chair:** Cristina Moreiras-Menor
- Editor/Designer:** April Caldwell

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The University of Michigan is an equal opportunity, affirmative action institution.

Italianissimo & Verdi's Tosca



During the 2004-2005 academic year, students of Italian had many extracurricular activities to participate in, from lectures and the traditional Italianissimo luncheon held every semester to the exhibition of the famous Murano glass at the Detroit Institute of Arts. Thanks to the generous support of Arts at Michigan, Dean Robert Megginson, and our own department, the highlight of this year's activities was attending a performance of Verdi's *Tosca* at Michigan Opera Theater in Detroit on April 10, 2005.

We filled three buses and arrived at the opera theater with an impressive group of 136 students and faculty. This was the first opera experience for many of our students. It was an event to be remembered by all involved. Students were overwhelmed by both the quality of the performance and the beautiful interior of the opera house. The cast was remarkable, and their performance excellent. Our students followed the text of the libretto on supra titles, and were able to recognize many of the linguistic patterns that they heard. As students' interest in the language and culture of Italy continues to increase, we look forward to providing them with more opportunities to experience it.



RLL Clubs

Italianissimo

The goals of Italianissimo are to introduce students of Italian to some of the customs of Italy and give them an opportunity to use the language outside of class. Students meet once a week for conversation practice and every other week to view an Italian movie. For more information contact audigugu@umich.edu.

Le Comité Francophone

Designed for French speakers of all levels, Le Comité Francophone holds weekly conversation meetings at a local Ann Arbor coffee shop and hosts other activities in order to give both university and non-university club members the opportunity to practice French. For more information contact lecomitefrancophone@umich.edu.

Spanish Club

The Spanish Club is an undergraduate organization that hosts weekly conversation meetings, offers free tutoring during the fall and winter terms, and hosts other activities promoting student participation in Hispanic/Latino culture. For more information contact mgsmith@umich.edu.

Visit our website for more information on clubs
<http://www.lsa.umich.edu/rll/resources/rllclubs.html>

New Faculty:

Kate Jenckes and Paulina Alberto

Kate Jenckes

Kate Jenckes received her Ph.D. in Comparative Literature from the University of Oregon in 2001, where she specialized in Latin American literature and literary and cultural theory. She has held teaching positions at Reed College, Duke University, and most recently at Rice University in Houston, Texas.

Kate Jenckes
Assistant Professor of Spanish

EDUCATION: Ph.D.,
University of Oregon, 2001

AREAS: Latin American Literature and Literary and Cultural Theory

RECENT PUBLICATIONS:
"The 'New Latin Americanism,' or the End of Regionalist Thinking?" [The New Centennial Review](#) (2005).
"Against a Sepulchral Rhetoric of the Past: Poetry and History in the Early Borges," [Latin American Literary Review](#) (2004).

Her current research project is on poetry written during and after the last dictatorships in Chile and Argentina, with a focus on the relationship between language and witnessing. She has presented portions of this project in a variety of venues, including a week in 2004 as an invited professor at the Universidad de Simón Bolívar in Caracas, Venezuela.

This past summer, she spent two months in Buenos Aires, doing research for a chapter on the poetry of Juan Gelman for her book-in-progress. She also spent significant periods of time in Santiago, Chile, where in addition to research for the poetry project, she also collaborated with the journal of criticism and theory *Extremoccidente*.

Her current theoretical interests include the relationship between language, law, and justice; the limits of representation; cultural studies; humanism and its discontents.

Her first book, *Borges, Benjamin, and the Allegorical Writing of History*, has just been accepted for publication in the SUNY series Latin American and Iberian Thought and Culture.

Paulina Alberto

A native of Buenos Aires, Argentina, Paulina Alberto has lived and studied in Brazil, Mexico, France, and the United States. She received her Ph.D. in Latin American History at the University of Pennsylvania, specializing in Brazilian history. Her research addresses the ways that ideologies of race and nation have shaped citizenship in Latin American societies since independence; specifically, how competing definitions of race and nation, enunciated by political and intellectual elites as well as by people of color, produced different ideas about the meanings of racial inclusiveness across Latin America.

Paulina Alberto
Assistant Professor of Spanish and Portuguese

EDUCATION: Ph.D., University of Pennsylvania, 2005

AREAS: Modern Latin American History & Historiography, Ideologies of Race, Nation & Citizenship, Afro-Latin American Diaspora

RECENT PUBLICATIONS:
Book manuscript in progress, "Terms of Inclusion: Black Intellectuals and the Cultural Conditions for Citizenship in a Multi-Racial Brazil, 1920-1980."

Alberto's Ph.D. thesis, "Terms of Inclusion: Black Activism and the Cultural Conditions for Citizenship in a Multi-Racial Brazil, 1920-1988," charts the changing terms through which black intellectuals in Brazil defined their multi-racial nation, and their own citizenship within it, between 1920 and 1980. Drawing upon Brazil's rich *imprensa negra* or black press, the thesis explores the various ways that these intellectuals used terms like "racial fraternity" and "racial democracy" (generally understood as oppressive dominant discourses) to argue for their inclusion in the nation, and for their rights to racial and cultural distinctiveness.

She joins the department as a specialist in Brazilian history, with plans for future research on ideas of racial utopia in the Lusophone world, and on the erasure of Argentina's African heritage. Alberto's teaching interests include, primarily, Portuguese-language courses on issues of race, national identity, and popular culture in Brazilian literature and political writings, but she also looks forward to teaching in Spanish (as she will be doing this semester) on issues of race and national identity in Latin America more broadly.

Focus on Faculty

Professor William Paulson has been named the Edward Lorraine Walter Collegiate Professor of Romance Languages & Literatures.

Professor Gustavo Verdesio was editor of the recently published *Dispositio 52: Latin American Subaltern Studies Revisited* (2005). He also received a Humanities Institute Grant for Collaborative Groups in the Humanities for summer 2005.

Professor Frieda Ekotto's novel *Chuchote pas trop* (L'Harmattan, Paris, 2005) was recently published.

Professor Alison Cornish received a fellowship from the Harvard University Center for Italian Renaissance Studies at Villa I Tatti in Florence for the 2005-06 academic year to work on her project "Vernacular Translation from Brunetto Latini to Giovanni Boccaccio" and to work on her book tentatively titled, *Volgarizzamento: An Anxiety of Translation*.

Professor Enrique Garcia's book titled, *Espacio urbano y creación literaria en el Madrid de Felipe IV* was awarded the 2005 Premio de Ensayo Villa de Madrid for the best research study on the city of Madrid in 2004 by the city council (Ayuntamiento de Madrid).

Professor Javier Sanjines recently published *El espejismo del mestizaje* with the French Institute for Andean Studies (IFEA). This book is a revised version of his previous book, *Mestizaje Upside-Down* (University of Pittsburgh Press, 2004).

Professor Steve Dworkin will present a paper on the history of Romance Linguistics in the United States at the Congreso Internacional de Historiografía Lingüística in Murcia, Spain. In addition, he offered a seminar, "El español como lengua romance" at the University of Tübingen as a visiting professor in the Romanisches Seminar.

Professor Emeritus Ross Chambers's recently published book, *Untimely Interventions: AIDS Writing Testimonial & the Rhetoric of Haunting* (University of Michigan Press, 2004), won the 2005 University Press Award.

Professor Alain Mabankou's recently published novel, *Verre Cassé* (Editions Le Seuil, 2005), won both the 2005 Prix des Cinq Continents de la Francophonie and the Prix Radio France Outre Mer du Livre 2005 and is nominated for the Prix Femina 2005.

Professor Alina Clej presented "Phantoms of the City: Reading the French Revolution in the Urban Landscape of 19th-Century France," at the 23rd Congress of the International Federation for Modern Languages and Literatures held in Cairns, Australia in summer 2005. This article will also appear in *Text and the City* (University of Sydney, 2005).

Professor David Caron received a fellowship from the Humanities Institute for 2006 to support his new book project titled, *The Contested Ghetto: French Republicanism and the Politics of Community*.

In the classroom

Business Spanish



The business section of Spanish 305, "Spanish for the Professions" has had several successful "intercambios" with students from Madrid, Spain attending Universidad San Pablo, CEU. Using video conferencing facilities in the Language Resource Center, students are able to meet and interact in real time, and they discuss banking habits, resumé writing, advertising techniques, and other business topics.

As a follow up, our students continue their discussions in C-Tools, an on-line course webpage. This avenue provides them the opportunity to see and comment on each other's work, as well as to clarify any questions they might have. It also allows the students an opportunity to pursue the topic being discussed in a more meaningful manner. Students improve their language skills and learn about cultural differences. The best outcome is that the students get to know each other by conducting mock job interviews, sharing flamenco dancing techniques, and exchanging poems via video conferencing. Our next goal is to have students meet each other in person.



Festival Panafricain du Cinéma et de la Télévision de Ouagadougou (FESPACO)



by Elena Dalla Torre and Rebecca Wines, Graduate Students of French

When Professor Frieda Ekotto approached us during the fall semester of 2004 with the proposal of a trip to Burkina Faso to attend the biannual Festival of Panafrikan Cinema (FESPACO), we accepted enthusiastically. It would be our very first visit to Africa, and an enriching personal experience with the culture of a francophone African country which has remained less visible than some other African nations and is still counted among the poorest.

Our trip to Burkina Faso, which included four other students, lasted about a week, beginning on February 25 and ending on March 6. Before our landing in the capital city of Ouagadougou, we took advantage of a several hour lay-over in Dakar, Senegal, to visit the *île Gorée* (Goree Island), a site from which slaves were shipped across the ocean. Though quiet and colorful to look at, the Slave House was moving because of "its smell of flesh," as Professor Ekotto and the rest of us noticed. From the car window, Dakar and the Senegalese looked just the way Ousmane Sembene depicts them in his movies. We couldn't tell the difference between the movie and the reality – a mark of Sembene's accurate portrayal of the life of the capital city of Senegal, with its juxtaposition of extreme misery and extreme luxury.

Our stay in Ouagadougou was marked by two kinds of experiences both of which were vivid and had equal impact on us: first the film festival, and second that of the streets and the people from the capital of Burkina Faso and its surroundings. FESPACO is an important world event from an artistic and a social point of view, since not only does it bring international attention and incentive to a country that is working towards its development, but FESPACO is also -- and above all -- an opportunity created by and for artists from many African countries and abroad to tell and exchange their own stories, their particular experiences of what it means to be and to live as Senegalese, South Africans, Congolese, Cameroonians, Moroccans. For many of them it meant experimenting with the means at their disposal to find a voice and a style of representation.

For those of us who were attending the festival as simple spectators, it was a chance to watch, listen and learn. Those movies were some of the most "other" we had ever seen and at times being a spectator was harder than expected. Among the most engaging, in Elena's opinion, was a film by Moroccan director Ismael Ferrucki, *Le Grand Voyage*, showing the confrontation and the reconciliation between a Muslim father and a non-believing son on their way to Mecca.

Movies were projected in different theaters all over Ouagadougou. Ouaga – as its inhabitants call it-- was impressive for the amount of people who were crowding the streets at any time of day or night, selling their products -- from food to clothing-- praying, or simply hanging out. It would have been impossible to leave Ouaga without a souvenir from its markets or without a casual, yet lengthy conversation with one of the many vendors in the streets. One day, between projections of movies, we ventured some 40 kilometers outside of Ouagadougou into a rural land dotted with tiny villages and small stores. We stopped to visit one of these villages where a family welcomed us and in exchange for their hospitality we gave rice and candies.

It was indeed an intense week full of curiosity and little discoveries, but also at times full of anxiety due to a few *accidents de parcours* that would have created even more stress had it not been for Professor Ekotto's prompt intervention and help!

To view all the photos taken in Burkina Faso, visit our website <http://www.lsa.umich.edu/rll/studyabroad/africa.html>

In
Depth

Paulson named the Edward Lorraine Walter Collegiate Professor of Romance Languages and Literatures

William Paulson has been named the Edward Lorraine Walter Professor of Romance Languages and Literatures, after being nominated by the department for a collegiate professorship, the highest honor awarded to faculty by the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.

Professor Paulson is an internationally recognized scholar of French literature and of contemporary academic culture. He is the author of four books, including *Enlightenment, Romanticism, and the Blind in France* (1987), *The Noise of Culture: Literary Texts in a World of Information* (1988), *Sentimental Education: The Complexity of Disenchantment* (1992), and *Literary Culture in a World Transformed: A Future for the Humanities* (2001). He has also published more than 30 articles or chapters in edited volumes, has edited a volume himself, and has collaborated in translations of works by the major French thinker Michel Serres.



As a scholar of French literature, Professor Paulson's nominal area of specialization is the period from roughly 1750 to 1850, and in this area he is certainly one of the best-known scholars in the United States. In his more recent work, his interests have extended well beyond this particular period, and most recently he has published a ground-breaking book on the state of the humanities in the early twenty-first century.

As a teacher, Professor Paulson endeavors to enact the functions he advocates for literary culture in his scholarship. He seeks to provide his students not only with the tools of a particular disciplinary trade, but with what he calls in *Literary Culture in a World Transformed*, borrowing the phrase of Kenneth Burke, "equipment for living."

Professor Paulson has played a pivotal role in building the Department of Romance Languages and Literatures, serving as Department Chair from 1992 to 1997, and he continues to lend his intellectual presence and administrative skill to Department, College, and University Committees.

In Remembrance Ernst Pulgram (1915-2005)

I regret to inform readers of this Newsletter of the death on August 17 of Ernst Pulgram, Professor Emeritus of Romance and Classical Linguistics, one month short of his ninetieth birthday.

Ernst was born in Vienna on September 18, 1915. Upon completing a doctorate in Romance Philology at the University of Vienna in 1938, he left Austria immediately after its annexation that same year by Nazi Germany. Following service in the US Army Ernst entered Harvard University where he earned a doctorate in Comparative Philology in 1946. He joined the Faculty of the University of Michigan in 1948, where he remained until his retirement in 1986. He and his colleague in Spanish, the late Lawrence B. Kiddle, established a Romance Linguistics program that, over the years, awarded more than one hundred master's degrees and over sixty doctorates.

Ernst was an internationally recognized and widely-published expert in Latin and Romance linguistics (with emphasis on Italian). Over forty of his most important essays have been gathered together in the two-volume collection, *Practicing Linguist. Essays on Language and Languages 1950-1985* (Heidelberg: Carl Winter, 1986, 1988). He earned the respect and admiration of his students and colleagues through the breadth of his erudition, the clarity of his teaching and the independence of his scholarly thinking. In addition, Ernst was a connoisseur of classical music and possessed an important private art collection.

Ernst is survived by his wife, Frances McSparran, and his brother Bill. A memorial service was held on Saturday October 29 in the University of Michigan Museum of Art.

The Graduate program

The Graduate Program in RLL was very active during the 2004-2005 academic year and the momentum will continue this year. We have admitted an outstanding group of students and our more advanced students have been very successful in finding professional placement in academic positions.

Graduate students were very active in the planning and preparation of the two-day conference "What's New?: Transatlantic Luso-Spanish Debates and the Market of Ideas" sponsored by the Department of Romance Languages & Literatures this past winter. Students chaired panels, participated in round table discussions, presented papers and engaged in discussions with other participants and the public. Without their presence and participation the conference would not have been the resounding success it was.

The annual Charles F. Fraker graduate student conference, which is entirely organized by our graduate students, will be held November 18-19, 2005. The distinguished guest speakers for this year's conference are Professor Brett Levinson of the Department of Comparative Literature at SUNY Binghamton and Professor Graziella Parati of the Department of French and Italian at Dartmouth College. I am sure that once again, as in the past, the conference will be a major success for our graduate program. It seems that each year more and more graduate students from programs all over the country view the Charles F. Fraker conference as an important opportunity to meet and dialogue with our students and faculty members.

We have three outstanding new additions to our graduate student body. Selected from a very broad and competitive pool of applications, David Barreto, Alejandro Quin, and Jennifer Solheim will without doubt add to the intellectual vitality of our program in new and important ways.

In my first year of Graduate Chair my hope is to be able to build on the excellent initiatives and innovations of previous years. With an intellectual community as committed and vibrant as ours, I know that this will be possible.

Cristina Moreiras-Menor

David Barreto (Spanish)
B.A., Catholic University
of America



Interests: 20th- & 21st-century Spanish, Portuguese, & Latin American poetries, Medieval Spain

Jennifer Solheim (French)
B.A., University of Illinois-
Chicago



Interests: Francophone Literature, particularly the Maghreb & Middle East

Alejandro Quin (Spanish)
B.A., Universidad Nacional
de Colombia
M.A., University of Florida



Interests: 19th & 20-century Latin American Literature & Culture

Fraker Conference

RLL graduate students are pleased to announce the 14th Annual Charles F. Fraker Conference, titled "In and Out: Plotting Culture," to be held in the Rackham building on November 18 and 19, 2005. This year's conference will include presentations by 30 students from a variety of disciplines and institutions on topics relating to Romance language literatures and cultures.

Friday, November 18, 2005
3:30pm, East & West Conference Rooms -
Proceedings begin

5pm, Rackham Amphitheatre - Keynote speech
by Professor Brett Levinson of the University of
New York, Binghamton

Saturday, November 19, 2005
10am, East & West Conference Rooms -
Proceedings begin

5pm, Rackham Amphitheatre - Keynote speech
by Professor Graziella Parati of Dartmouth College

Frederick De Armas in RLL's celebration of the 400th Anniversary of Don Quixote

Considering the length of Don Quixote, it is surprising that the adventure of the windmills, only taking up a few paragraphs in the text, has come to represent the substance of the entire book. On Friday November 11, 2005 Frederick De Armas will present a lecture titled, "Dancing with Giants: Ekphrasis and the Double Techne in Don Quixote (I.8)." This lecture will discuss how the scene impacts the reader through its pictorialism, based on the arts of sculpting and painting as well as on technology. In order to better understand the relation between the verbal and the visual in the episode of the windmills, Professor De Armas will discuss the illustrations by Gustave Doré as well as the scene's ekphrastic elements derived from Dante, Homer and Philostratus. He will also suggest the impact of Italian Renaissance painting (Giulio Romano) on the making of the windmills/giants.

Frederick A. De Armas is chair of Romance Languages and Literatures and Professor of Spanish and Comparative Literature at the University of Chicago. In addition, De Armas is the Andrew W. Mellon Professor in Humanities and Vice President of the Cervantes Society of America. He has written extensively on Early Modern Spanish literature including topics such as the politics of astrology, magic and the Hermetic tradition, ekphrasis, the relations between the verbal and the visual particularly between Spanish literature and Italian art, and the interconnections between myth and empire during the rule of the Habsburgs. His books and edited collections include: *The Invisible Mistress: Aspects of Feminism and Fantasy in the Golden Age* (1976); *The Return of Astraea: An Astral-Imperial Myth in Calderón* (1986); *The Prince in the Tower: Perceptions of "La vida es sueño"* (1993); *Heavenly Bodies: The Realms of "La Estrella de Sevilla"* (1996); *A Star-Crossed Golden Age: Myth and the Spanish Comedia* (1998); *Cervantes, Raphael and the Classics* (1998). Most recently he has co-edited *European Literary Careers: The Author from Antiquity to the Renaissance* (2002), and *Writing for the Eyes in the Spanish Golden Age* (2004).

Date
November 11, 2005, 4:30pm

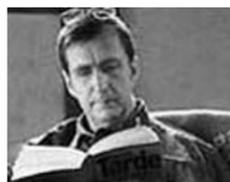
Speaker
Frederick De Armas,
University of Chicago

Where
4th floor Commons
Modern Languages Building

The 26th Annual Keniston Lecture Guest Speaker: Bruno Latour

Bruno Latour, one of the creators of the contemporary discipline of science studies, will deliver the 26th Hayward Keniston Lecture on October 26, 2005. Latour's talk, entitled "First and Second Empiricism," will take place at 4 p.m. in the Rackham Amphitheater, with a reception following in the Rackham Assembly Hall.

Born in Burgundy and trained first in philosophy and then in ethnography, Latour pioneered the application of social science methods in the study of how the work of the natural sciences is done. He has subsequently worked at showing the implications of science studies for our understanding of nature, society, modernity, politics, and facts. His publications in English include *Science in Action* (1987), *The Pasteurization of France* (1988), *We Have Never Been Modern* (1993), and *Pandora's Hope* (1999), all from Harvard University Press. Latour is a professor at the Ecole nationale supérieure des mines in Paris and has held visiting appointments at a number of major universities.



The Keniston Lecture is organized by the Department of Romance Languages and Literatures on behalf of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, in accordance with a bequest from the Keniston family. It honors Hayward Keniston (1883-1970), the only person to have served as both Chair of Romance Languages & Literatures and Dean of L.S.A.

As a member of the U-M Alumni Association, you can go to www.umich.edu/~umalumni/online-services and use the Alumni Directory Locator Service.

If you are not a member of the U-M Alumni Association, it is easy to join. Simply visit the website mentioned above, or call the Association directly at (734) 764-0384 or (800) 847-4764.

Edward Kukla (M.A. Spanish '63) retired from Special Collections at Minneapolis Public Library after 31 years of librarianship. He plans to move to the Petoskey area in 2006.

Christine Hoppe (M.A. French '75) taught English as a Second Language (ESL) for six years in Montpellier, France. Afterward, she taught French, Italian, and ESL at private schools and universities in Indiana, Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, and North Carolina. Currently, she works in a publishing company in Norfolk, Virginia. Interested in anti-war activism, she has contributed many Middle Eastern artifacts to fairs and displays in an effort to teach Americans about Arab culture. In addition, she belongs to Toastmasters International and enjoys quilting.
E-mail: cthoppe10@yahoo.com

Robin Throne (M.A. Spanish '78) is enjoying her position as District Supervisor of Modern Languages, ESL, and Activities for Hicksville Public Schools.
E-mail: rthrone@mail.nasbores.org

Sylvestre (Steve) Novak (M.A. French '76) taught 300 level French courses in 1974-1979. Fluent in both French and Spanish, he is currently a senior producer for Creative Brand Development, working with clients like Chrysler, Ford, Volvo, Lego, Pacificare, Cranium, and ADT.
E-mail: cinefrog@comcast.net

Hattie Hill (B.A. French 2000) is currently working as a freelance translator and interpreter in New York City and will begin working in Paris in fall 2005.
E-mail: hehtrans@yahoo.com

Astrid Billat (Ph.D. Spanish 2000) gave birth on December 7, 2004 to William Julien Shepard-Billat. She and her family live in Raleigh, North Carolina. She is an Assistant Professor of Spanish at Meredith College and still enjoys salsa dancing.
E-mail: billata@meredith.edu

We want to hear from YOU!!

Send an e-mail to rll.editor@umich.edu or mail in this reply.

Name: _____

Graduation year: _____ **Degree/Language:** _____

E-mail address: _____

(Your e-mail will be included in your Alumni Note, unless you note otherwise)

Your news for Alumni Notes (please limit to 2-3 sentences):

Contact us:

Attn: Editor
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The Michigan Difference

The University of Michigan has launched a fundraising campaign with the goal of \$2.5 billion. The Department of Romance Languages and Literatures is featured along with other LSA departments in the campaign, and RLL's campaign priorities are listed at <http://www.lsa.umich.edu/lsa/alumni/campaign/depts/>. With your help we seek to expand our strengths in interdisciplinary literary and cultural studies through strong commitments to a variety of study abroad and experiential opportunities for our students and support for faculty research.

RLL's development priorities include fellowship support for graduate students, study abroad and internship abroad support for undergraduate students, and a departmental strategic fund that will allow us to mount biannual conferences, invite visiting scholars and writers to campus, offer research grants to support faculty and students, support undergraduate travel to international conferences, and supplement faculty recruitment and retention offers.

These priorities are described in detail on our campaign webpage. In order to continue our innovative, engaging programs of study and to promote the research of our excellent faculty, RLL must be able to increase the variety of learning experiences we offer to undergraduates, offer fellowships to top graduate students, and support faculty and visiting scholars.

Campaign website for RLL: <http://www.lsa.umich.edu/lsa/alumni/campaign/depts/>

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