The Chair

Bob Acker: Congratulations to all the 60 students who will be graduating from the Department on May 10. We wish you all the best for the future and we hope that you will come back to visit us often.

Provost Engstrom has made the following recommendations to the Board of Regents: Ona Renner-Fahey to be promoted to Associate Professor, Clary Loisel to be promoted to Full Professor, and Hayden Ausland to receive a merit award. Congratulations to these colleagues as well.

Finally, I would like to thank each of you for your hard work and dedication this past academic year. I wish you a pleasant and rewarding summer. If you are leaving us at the end of the semester, best wishes for continued success. For those returning, we will see you on August 20.

Staff

Olivia White will be graduating on May 10 with a BA in English. Congratulations and best wishes!

MALT

The Fall MALT Conference will be held Oct. 16-17 in Missoula. Faculty members are encouraged to give presentations. The online application form can be found here: http://mea-mft.net/. The deadline is May 15.

French

Mladen Kozul supervised the organisation, by Ari Margolin and Shannon Schreiner, of the undergraduate/graduate conference, the Eighteenth Century Revisited, held on April 19th on campus. He also chaired and moderated two panels. The conference brought together researchers in palaeontology, history of science, art history and literature. At the conference Les papes imaginaires des lumières françaises (Rome, Italy, March 13-15), organized by the Belgian Royal Academy of Science, Mladen presented a paper entitled Les Pontifes des pamphlets anti-papaux. At the annual conference of The American and Northwest Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, held in Portland, OR, March 27-30, he presented a paper entitled "Le libertinage théâtral de Sade: qui voit quoi." He published "La séduction critique: la lecture du roman entre la théologie et le libertinage", in Des sens au sens: Littérature et Morale de Molière à Voltaire, ed. Jacques Wagner, Peeters, Leuven-Paris, 2008, p. 161-185. He evaluated the international research project in Eighteenth-Century studies, Within the Margins and outside them: Marginality and Deviance in French Fictional Literature of the Enlightenment, elaborated at the University of Tel Aviv, Israel. At the Graduate Student and Faculty Research Conference, held at the UM on April 4-5, he chaired a session and judged papers. He received a University Research Grant, which will allow him to pursue his research at the British Library during the coming summer.

Michel Valentin attended the “Trans-francophonie Conference” at Idaho State University on April 18-20 and read a paper entitled, “The Transformer: Zones and Fluxes in Djibril Diop Mambety’s film Touki Bouki” (The Hyenas’ Journey--Wolof.) He was invited to participate as one of five panelists at the “Homosexuality: Biology or Choice” forum organized by the UM MultiCultural Alliance in the UC on April 24. Three of his articles have been posted on an International web site: Firedog Lake Political Web Bog and a short article, “Identity Politics Limits and
Limitations,” was published on the Liberatormagazine online web site. Chris Anderson gave a talk entitled, “Daniel Pennac’s Post-colonial Tribal Identity,” at the Trans-francofonie Conference, held at Idaho State University April 18-20.

German

Liz Ametsbichler and Hiltrud Arens were on the organizing committee of the annual Graduate Student / Faculty Conference that took place on campus on April 5th. Liz was in charge of “judging” for presentations, and Hiltrud helped organize the Roundtable Discussion that took place at the luncheon. Both were judges and Liz also chaired a session. Lindsey Brandt, a German M.A. student, presented a paper at the conference entitled “Language and Cultural Translation in Multicultural German Literature.”

Undergraduates Melissa Sheedy and Sarah Windsor participated in the annual UM Conference for Undergraduate Research on April 4th. Melissa’s presentation was “Human or Saint? Genoveva as a German Literary Leitmotiv.” This was the culmination of research that she had conducted through an Undergraduate Research Award. Sarah’s senior honors project was a production of her translation of Arthur Schnitzler’s play Reigen, which she titled Around & Around. The play was performed in the Music Recital Hall on April 4th, 5th, and 6th.

The German section is pleased to announce that M.A. student Lindsey Brandt was awarded a prestigious Bertha Morton Scholarship for next year. The outstanding student award this year goes to graduating senior, Meghan Adney.

Susie Gruber and Julia Ploeckinger would like to thank everybody in the MCLL Department for the warm welcome and for the help and support during the academic year. Our special thanks go to Dr. Robert Acker for always being ready to give advice and for taking such good care of the Austrian Fulbrighters, and our supervisors Liz Ametsbichler and Marty Marko, who didn’t only enrich our lives academically but also personally. Montana proofed to be an experience that we will always cherish and hold dear. Danke für die schöne Zeit und Prost!

The German Section would like to send our best wishes to retiring Professor of German Gerald Fetz. Although he has been absent from the teaching faculty for the past few years due to his duties, first, as Dean of the Honors College and, most recently, as CAS Dean, he has always stayed involved in German Studies. Wir wünschen ihm alles Gute!

A reception will be held in his honor on Tuesday, May 6, from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. in the Davidson Honors College.

Marty Marko and his group of nine students are concluding their stay in Vienna at the beginning of May. April has been another busy month for the group, filled with more discoveries in and around Vienna. A highlight from early April was visiting a performance of “Traces of the Lost” by contemporary Austrian author and playwright Peter Handke, which featured the Hamburg indie rock band “Kante.” Later in April, the group visited its last theatre performance, which was, fittingly enough, “Tales from the Vienna Woods,” by early 20th century Austrian author and playwright Ödön von Horváth. The group’s final museum visit of the semester took place at the Austrian National Gallery in the Belvedere Palace. While Marty has enjoyed his two and one-half months of leading the program in Central Europe – from Berlin to Budapest and points in between, he is looking forward to being back in Missoula soon and having the chance to catch up with everyone in person! Bis dann!

Japanese

The Japanese Section is pleased to announce that three UM students were selected for the Oe summer teaching job in Japan: Katherine Gelinas, Aaron Minnick, and Stephanie VanderHeyden. The students will be spending 3 full months living in a small rural town where they will teach English to the local children. Laura Corcoran has been selected as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Africa, and we will greatly miss her next year.

Lydia Cotton has been selected as Date English Teaching Intern for the year and will be working as a teacher in the middle and senior
high schools of a small town in Hokkaido, in northern Japan. The Japanese section has been sending student teachers to Date for more than 17 years. **Mathew Lenning** will soon be returning to UM after a year in the same town, where he taught in a number of local schools. **Yuka Tachibana** is preparing to spend two years doing research at Tohoku University in Sendai, first on a sabbatical and then on a Japanese government grant, together with colleagues interested in Japanese second language education. During her absence, **Ms. Yuri Naito**, (M.A. in Japanese linguistics from the University of Toronto) will be working with us as a visiting instructor of Japanese.

**Judith Rabinovitch** was invited by the Edwin Reischauer Center of Japanese Studies, Harvard University, to give a public lecture at the Japan Forum, which was held March 21, 2008. The title of her lecture was "Kanshi Poems and the Fabric of Life in Edo-Period Kyoto: Resurrecting the Chinese Tanzaku of the Ozasa Kizo Collection." Judith and **Tim Bradstock** are completing a study of the late 19th century kanshi poet Inaga Nanpo and will be visiting his hometown and meeting family descendants in May.

**Spanish**

**Clary Loisel** received a University Research Grant for his proposal "Postmodern Construction of Sexual Identity in Contemporary Puerto Rican Literature" and plans to go to San Juan, PR this summer. He also moderated a panel and gave a talk, “‘Amores perros’: Everything changes,” at the Graduate Student and Faculty Research Conference on April 5. Clary invited Mexican novelist, short story writer, poet, and former journalist Rosamaria Roffiel to campus as a visiting scholar. Rosamaria attended several classes and engaged his students in discussions about her writing as well as Latin American literature. Rosamaria also gave a formal presentation on contemporary Mexican lesbian narrative.

**Naomi Lapidus Shin** is pleased to announce that her MA student from linguistics, Patricia Cano, won an award for her presentation at the Graduate Student and Faculty Research Conference. Ryan Morehouse, an undergraduate student majoring in Spanish and mathematics, was awarded the Al Price Opportunity Fund for an undergraduate doing a research project with an international focus. With this award, Ryan will conduct sociolinguistic interviews in Mexico this summer. Next year, Ryan and Naomi will analyze the data collected.