

University of California, Santa Barbara

Comparative Literature

WINTER 2011

Message from Susan Derwin, Chair

GREETINGS TO ALL:

Last year marked a milestone in the life of UCSB's Comparative Literature Program: after receiving an outstanding ten-year extramural evaluation, its graduate program was recognized by the National Research Council as among the top twenty in the country. This is a testament both to faculty achievements in research and to the achievements of our graduate students, prodigious scholars in their own right. Our students have found teaching positions in top universities and colleges around the country and beyond. Just this year Randy Pogorzelski was appointed the Charles Tesoriero Lecturer in Latin at the University of New England in Armidale Australia. In addition to securing this tenure-track position, Randy just won the very prestigious Gildersleeve Prize for the best article published in 2009 in the *American Journal of Philology*, one of the premier journals in classics. The article, "The Reassurance of Fratricide in the *Aeneid*," is based on a chapter of Randy's dissertation, which he completed in Fall 2007 under the supervision of Prof. Sara Lindheim of the Classics Department, former vice-chair of the Comparative Literature Program.



Last fall, as the new chair and graduate advisor of Comparative Literature, I had the opportunity to become acquainted with our twenty-two graduate students, each of whom is pursuing a unique and dynamic academic program. They are studying literary cultures from around the globe—from South Asia, Quebec and Puerto Rico to the Andes and the American borderlands. Their research interests range from eco-criticism, transnational media studies and urban biotechnical ecology, to medieval Persian Sufism and British empiricism. They speak Portuguese and Arabic, Chinese, Farsi and Greek; one student, Marzia Milazzo, will spend the summer learning Zulu (her eighth language) in South Africa; another, Devin Fromm, will travel to Bolivia to polish his Spanish and edit the writings of a prominent sociologist.

To continue to provide our diverse group of promising scholars with the resources they need to thrive, we are launching a number of new initiatives. The first is an ongoing lecture series, organized and run by our graduate students, featuring prominent academics and artists. In Fall 2011 we will also inaugurate a gateway course on graduate comparative literary study at UCSB. We have developed and begun a preparatory program for advanced graduate students entering the job market, the first step of which was a two-day workshop held in October and run by Karen Bishop, who received her Ph.D. in Comparative Literature at UCSB in 2008 before accepting a lectureship in the History and Literature Program at Harvard (Karen is currently a New Faculty Fellow of the American Council of Learned Societies at Rutgers University). Also in the planning stages are a web journal of criticism and a series of collaborative interdisciplinary graduate courses on comparative literature in a global context.

Finally, as of this fall, Comparative Literature is home to two new Ph.D. "specializations"—in German and in French Literary Studies—designed to support students interested in pursuing advanced literary training in French or German in an interdisciplinary and transnational context.

Please visit our website for updates on the Program throughout the year: <http://www.complit.ucsb.edu/>.

With best wishes,
Susan Derwin

UCSB Comparative Literature Program: A Home to Graduate Students

The UCSB Comparative Literature Program aims to provide a cooperative and interactive academic atmosphere by sponsoring events and social gatherings such as the annual holiday reception. In December 2010 the reception was held at the Mosher Alumni House and well-attended by comparative literature faculty, staff and students.



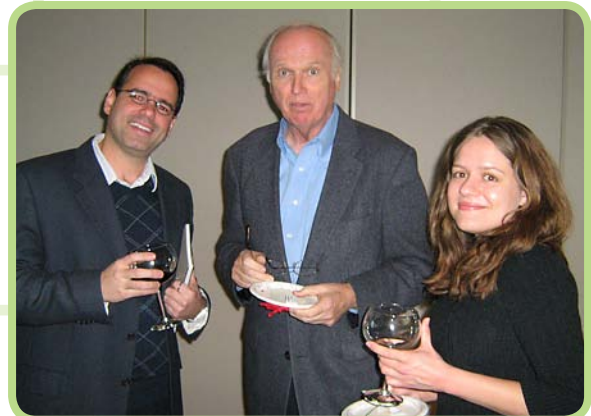
*Holiday reception: from left to right,
Katherine Kelp-Stebbins, Allison Schifani,
Tilly Govender (Business Director), Eli Evans*



*Professor Janet Afary (left),
Claudia Yaghoobi Massihi (right)*



*Marcel Brousseau toasting to a year of
success, Anne Marcoline (background)*



*From left to right: Rodrigo Bauler,
Professor Harvey Sharrer and Silvia Ferreira*

2010 Faculty Publications and Completed Projects

2010 was an active year of research for UCSB's Comparative Literature faculty, who contribute to our ranking among the top twenty comparative literature programs in the country.

SUSAN DERWIN, Professor of German: *Rage in the Aftermath of the Holocaust* (forthcoming Ohio State UP), a book manuscript examining the relationship between testimonial narrative and healing in texts by Jean Améry, Primo Levi, Saul Friedlaender, Imre Kertész, Benjamin Wilkomirski and in Liliana Cavani's film *The Night Porter*



Jody Enders

JODY ENDERS, Professor of French: *The Farce of the Fart and Other Ribaldries: Twelve Medieval French Plays in Modern English*, a translation of twelve plays that have never appeared in English (UPenn)

COLIN GARDNER, Professor of Critical Theory and Integrative Studies in the Departments of Art, Film & Media Studies and the History of Art and Architecture: "La storia senza pietà: *Mr. Klein* e I cristalli del tempo" ("History Without Pity: *M. Klein* and the Crystals of Time"), in *Joseph Losey: Senza Re, Senza Patria* (Lo Sguardo dei Maestri, X Edizione), Luciano De Giusti, ed. (Il Castoro)

JOCELYN HOLLAND, Professor of German: *Key Texts of Johann Wilhelm Ritter on the Science and Art of Nature* (Brill)

DOMINIQUE JULLIEN, Professor of French: "Mardrus illustrateur des Nuits," a study of the artistic context of J.C. Mardrus's turn-of-the-century translation, in

Sulle orme di Shahrazàd: le "Mille e una notte" fra Oriente e Occidente, Mirella Cassarino, ed. (Proceedings of the International Colloquium on the *Thousand and One Nights*, Università di Catania)

FRANCISCO LOMELÍ, Professor of Spanish: Co-editor of *Ventana Aboerta* 8.29-30; "Cuadro de vivencia de Luis Leal" in *Confluencia*

DIDIER MALEUVRE, Professor of French, affiliate of The Center for Film, Television & New Media: *The Horizon: A History of our Infinite Longing* (UC Press)

ELIDE VALARINI OLIVER, Professor of Spanish and Portuguese: *Variações sob a mesma luz. Machado de Assis repensado* (University of São Paulo Press and Nankin Editorial, forthcoming)



Eric Prieto

ERIC PRIETO, Professor of French and Italian: "Edouard Glissant, Littérature-monde, and Tout-monde" in *Small Axe* 33; "Swung Subjectivity in Jacques Réda" in *Paragraph*

JON R. SNYDER, Professor of Italian Studies and principal investigator for the new UC Italian Studies Multicampus Research Program Initiative: *Love in the Mirror*, a bilingual edition/translation of an experimental 1622 Baroque comedy by Giovan Battista Andreini, in paperback in the series *The Other Voice in Early Modern Europe* (Centre for Renaissance and Reformation Studies in Toronto); "Bodies of Water: The Mediterranean in Italian Baroque Theater" in the new on-line open access journal, *California Italian Studies* (<http://escholarship.org/uc/item/8dv7n1dk>)



Elide Valarini Oliver



Dominique Jullien



Kay Young

KAY YOUNG, Professor of English and co-director of Literature and Mind: *Imagining Minds: The Neuro-Aesthetics of Austen, Eliot, and Hardy* (Ohio State University Press)



Jon Snyder

2010 Faculty Lectures and Presentations

FRANCIS DUNN, Professor of Classics: "Metatheatre, Metaphysics, and the End of Greek Tragedy," keynote address, the annual Comparative Drama Conference: "Narrative, Caring, and Social Context: Case Studies from Ancient Athens," Loyola Marymount University

JOCELYN HOLLAND, Professor of German: "Zeugung/Fortpflanzung: Media Distinctions in the Discourse on Procreation around 1800," workshop paper, "Genealogies of Life: Philosophy and the Early Life Sciences in Context," Institute for Human Sciences, Vienna

DOMINIQUE JULLIEN, Professor of French: "Translation as Illustration," Nineteenth-Century French Studies Conference, Yale University; "Translation, Orientalism and Hybridity" American Comparative Literature Association, New Orleans; "Proust and the Ethics of Translation," International Colloquium on World Literature: "From Tradition to Creation," Paris



Jocelyn Holland



Suzanne Jill Levine

SUZANNE JILL LEVINE, Professor of Spanish, and general editor of the Borges Penguin Classics series: "Borges: A Classic in English," with editor Alfred Mac Adam, and special guest María Kodama, Americas Society, New York

FRANCISCO LOMELÍ, Professor of Spanish: "Origins and Evolution of Homies as Hip Cultural Artifacts: Taking the Homies Out of the Barrio or the Barrio Out of the Homies," Colloquium Series of the Chicana/o Studies Department, UCSB; "The Sense of Space in Villagrà's *Historia De La Nueva Mexico* (1610)," UC Merced

DIDIER MALEUVRE, Professor of French: "Rembrandt, or the portrait as encounter," plenary address, National Portrait Gallery, Canberra

HARVEY SHARRER, Professor of Spanish: "A reworking of Diego de Valera's *Ceremonial de Príncipes* by António Rodrigues, Manuel I of Portugal's Principal King of Arms," Thirteenth International Congress, International Courtly Literature Society, Montreal



Harvey Sharrer



Didier Maleuvre

2010 Graduate Student Advancements: Degrees

Ph.D. — CHRIS LEE

ABD — ALLISON SCHIFFANI

MA

MARCEL BROUSSEAU: "Disappearance and Apparition, Presence and Sustainability: Biological, Cultural, and Literary Processes of History in the U.S./ Mexico Borderlands"

KUAN-YEN LIU: "Zoology, Physiology and Philosophy of Mind: on Darwin's and Huxley's Biology and Victorian Literature"



Marcel Brousseau



Kuan-yen Liu



Allison Schiffani

Graduate Student Advancements: Field Exams

Comparative Literature graduate students complete three field examinations in three national literatures or two national literatures and one related area of concentration. Through the exams students gain a greater level of expertise and develop a breadth of knowledge in their fields before advancing to candidacy.

WINTER 2010

ELI EVANS: Translation Studies

KATIE KELP-STEBBINS: Translation Studies

SPRING 2010

MARCEL BROUSSEAU: Borderlands Literature

KUAN-YEN LIU: British Literature

EMILY PARSONS: Argentine-Jewish Literature

CLAUDIA YAGHOobi MASSIHI: Religious Studies

FALL 2010

DEVIN FROMM: Latin American Literature

KATIE KELP-STEBBINS: Anglophone Literature



Katie Kelp-Stebbins



Devin Fromm

2010 Graduate Student Publications



Kristie Soares

ELI EVANS: "Ventanas como espejos: Un comentario personal sobre 'Al pie de la escalera' de Lorrie Moore" in *Quimera*; "Fin de fiesta," translation of contemporary Spanish writer Juan José Millás' short essay in *n+1*

KRISTIE SOARES: "Traveling Queer Subjects: Homosexuality in the Cuban Diaspora" in *Revista de Estudios Hispánicos*

ELI EVANS: "Don't Say No," BookCourt in Brooklyn; "Anabasis Without End: Javier Marías' *Tu rostro mañana* and 'Translational' Narrative," Rocky Mountain MLA, Albuquerque—Eli's paper was nominated as a valuable contribution to the conference and solicited for publication in *Rocky Mountain Review of Language and Literature*



Eli Evans

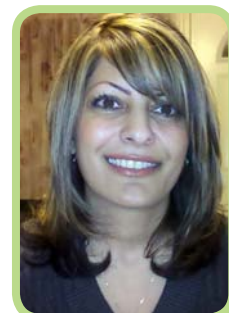
2010 Graduate Student Conference Presentations

SILVIA FERREIRA: "Representation of Loss: Raduan Nassar and Milton Hatoum Write the Arab Diaspora in Brazil," *Jil Jadid* (New Generation) Arabic Literature and Linguistics Conference, University of Texas, Austin

MARY GARCIA: "Intimacy: Technologies of Feeling and Fantasy," Seventh Annual Graduate Conference in Comparative Literature, University of Texas, Austin; "Transnational Americas: Difference Belonging, Identitarian Spaces," International Association of Inter-American Studies, University of Duisburg-Essen

KUAN-YEN LIU: "On the Transformation of Knowledge in Late Nineteenth-century China in Terms of 'Power/Knowledge' and 'Infrastructure/Superstructure,'" Tradition and Modernity, Philosophy Conference for Young Chinese Scholars, Peking University

CLAUDIA YAGHOobi MASSIHI: "'I have ordained you to be a mirror': Margery Kempe's Psycho-religious Quest for Self," Medieval Association of the Pacific, Tacoma; "Legal or Illegal: Temporary Marriage as an Alternative to Prostitution in Ebrahim Golestan's 'Esmat's Journey,'" Theorizing Economies of Desire: A Graduate Student Symposium on Sex Work, Department of Feminist Studies and the New Sexualities Research Focus Group, UCSB



Claudia Yaghoobi Massihi



Silvia Ferreira

News and Notes from the Outside World

Summer in Amsterdam

Rosie Kar, Graduate Student

In 2009 I had the opportunity to be part of the University of Amsterdam's Summer Institute on Sexuality, Culture, and Society. I had just finished my fourth year in UCSB's Comparative Literature Program, where I was fortunate enough to earn a Continuing Student Fellowship after having advanced to candidacy in the spring. The institute's aim was to explore and study the social and cultural dimensions of human sexuality. The 2009 faculty members were: Diana DiMauro, Robert Sember, Graeme Reid, Deevia Bhana, Kate Frank, Lia Sciortino and Pinar Ilkkaracan. Topics covered included sexuality in Islam, the HIV/AIDS epidemic, young sexualities, transgendered bodies, and cultural productions of sexualities. Our seminars, lunches, and weekly get-togethers enabled faculty and students to develop wonderful working relationships and professional ties. In addition, Amsterdam's open atmosphere and small scale made it an ideal location for the institute. I met people from Turkey, Ethiopia, Nairobi, Egypt, Peru, Pakistan, China, Texas, Boston, New York, and Barbados. Living together in the campus dorm enabled us to become a close-knit community. My training as a comparatist proved advantageous—I'd already taken seminars in many departments at UCSB and had experience in thinking about sexualities across disciplines. Likewise, my diverse teaching experience at UCSB—in Comparative Literature, the Writing Program, Asian American Studies, and Feminist Studies—helped me navigate the institute's classrooms. My summer at the institute was one of the most interesting, memorable experiences I have had. It helped me to formulate a dissertation project and receive a President's Dissertation Year Fellowship for 2010-2011.



Rosie models the latest in Dutch footwear



Launa enjoys the view in Buenos Aires

Around the World and Back with Launa Romanowsky, Undergraduate Comparative Literature Major

My name is Launa Romanowsky and I am a junior transfer student in the Comparative Literature Program. I became interested in comparative literature after studying literature, contemporary politics and Spanish during a Santa Barbara City College study abroad program in Chile and Argentina. Although I am only in my first year at UCSB, I am very passionate about my studies in the Comparative Literature Program. I enjoy the freedom my major gives me to explore many different departments on campus. I realized in my studies in South America that there is an intimate relationship between literature, politics, culture, and language. Being a part of the Comparative Literature Program at UCSB has allowed me to study these connections without having to limit my focus to one area.

Selected Alumni Profiles

DR. DANIELLE BORGIA teaches in the American Cultures Program at Loyola Marymount University. Her article, "Vampiros mexicanos: Non-normative Sexualities in Contemporary Vampire Novels of Mexico," was accepted for inclusion in the anthology *Vampires and Zombies: Transnational Transformations*, produced by MESEA (Multi Ethnic Studies of Europe and the Americas) and edited by Dorothea Fischer.

DR. MARCO CODEBO, Assistant Professor of French and Italian at Long Island University, presented "The Archive and the Historical Novel: Manzoni vs. Scott" at the annual conference of the American Association for Italian Studies, held at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor in April 2010. In May 2010 he was invited to present "Fra archivio e database: genealogia e prospettive del romanzo" at L'Università della Calabria, Cosenza. Finally, Marco presented "The Archival Novel at the End of the Paper Age: Harry Mathews's *The Journalist* and José Saramago's *Todos os Nomes*" at "Archive," the British Comparative Literature Association XII International Conference held at the University of Kent, Canterbury in July 2010.

DR. NATHAN HENNE has just completed a translation of the novel "Time Begins in Xibalba" and is waiting for the outside reviews to come in before it gets published by University of Arizona Press. After seeing his proposal and sample chapters, the press has asked Nathan to submit his scholarly monograph *More than Translation: Using the Popol Wuj as a Guide to Indigenous Poetics in American Literatures*.

DR. RANDALL POGORZELSKI is Charles Tesoriero Lecturer in Latin at University of New England, Armidale, NSW. In April 2010 he presented "Tyrants and Terrorists: Cacus and Political Identity in Virgil's *Aeneid* and Joyce's *Ulysses*," at the 2010 Gildersleeve Prize Classics Lecture at Texas Tech University, and "The Desolate World City: *Urbs* and *Orbis* from Ovid to Lucan" at the annual meeting of the American Comparative Literature Association. In February 2010 Randy presented "*Orbis Romanus*: Lucan and the Limits of the Roman World" to the English Department of the University of Texas Pan-American. Randy is currently a referee for the *American Journal of Philology*.

DR. MARTA WILKINSON is in her fifth year of teaching at Wilmington College, where she gives interdisciplinary courses on world literatures and cultures. This year Marta also became the coordinator of the college's Writing Across the Curriculum Program.

Contact the Program

WEBSITE: <http://www.complit.ucsb.edu>

MAIL: Comparative Literature Program
4206 Phelps Hall
University of California, Santa Barbara
Santa Barbara, CA 93106-4131

PHONE: (805) 893-2131

PROGRAM CHAIR AND GRADUATE ADVISOR:
Susan Derwin, derwin@gss.ucsb.edu

GRADUATE PROGRAM ASSISTANT:
Ashley Bradbury, ashley@hfa.ucsb.edu

UNDERGRADUATE ADVISOR:
Margaret McMurtrey, mmcmurtrey@hfa.ucsb.edu

NEWSLETTER EDITORS:
Katherine Kelp-Stebbins, kkelpstebbins@umail.ucsb.edu
Claudia Yaghoobi Massihi, cyaghoobimassihi@umail.ucsb.edu

Donation Form

To make a contribution to the Comparative Literature Program mail this form and your tax deductible donation to:

Comparative Literature Program
4206 Phelps Hall
Santa Barbara, CA 93106-4130

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

E-MAIL: _____

PHONE/FAX: _____

Please make your check payable to:
UC Regents