

Say There

Modern Languages Alumni Newsletter

1980-1990

A Decade of Recognition

Over the past ten years the department has been honored with an unusual number of awards. To begin the decade, Phil Richardson's many accomplishments were recognized by the College of Arts and Sciences "Distinguished Achievement Award." In 1983 the college initiated the "Dean's Outstanding Teacher Award" to be given each year to faculty members whose competence in the classroom is admired by both students and colleagues. Seven awards have been made to members of our department, the most given to one department among the twenty in the college. Holding "Outstanding Teacher Awards" are Wally Cameron, Rich Danner, Ursula Lawson, Tony Serna, Lois Vines, Maureen Weissenrieder, and Bill Wrage.

Honors have also come to the department at the state level. The Ohio Foreign Language Association selected members of our department as well as the department as a whole for its prestigious awards, including the following: "Outstanding Professional Service Award," 1983, Phil Richardson; "Community Service Award," 1985, O.U. Dept. of Modern Languages; "Outstanding Program Award," 1988, O..U. Dept. of Modern Languages; "Outstanding College Teacher Award," 1988, Lois Vines. Except for our sister institution in Columbus, Ohio University has earned more Ohio Foreign Language Association awards than any other college or university in the state. The next decade will get off to a good start: Barry Thomas was recently elected president of the Ohio Foreign Language Association.

At the national level, Phil Richardson received the "Distinguished Service Award" from the National Association of Language Lab Directors in 1981; Lois Vines and Barry Thomas were recognized in 1990 as "Pioneers in Collaboration" by Donald Kennedy, President of Stanford University and Chair of the Presidents' Forum on Teaching as a Profession, in honor of their outstanding accomplishments in Academic Alliances in Foreign Languages and Literatures.

Other accomplishments of faculty in Modern Languages during the 1980's include the following: Vice-President of the International Jean Gebser Society; member, Board of Directors, Joint National Committee for Languages; member, Executive Committee on 17th-Century French Literature, Modern Language Association; French Section Head, MLA International Bibliography; Review Editor of the French Review for literary history and criticism; publication of monographs and textbooks (e.g., Ohio University Press, Houghton Mifflin, Scripta Humanistica) and of articles in refereed journals.

We look forward to another decade of achievement in the 1990s!

New Equipment for the Call Lab

A grant of \$59,000 was received from the State of Ohio House Bill Fund for new computers for the Computer

Assisted Language Learning (CALL) Lab. Fifteen of the new Macintosh IIsi computers, a laser printer, two videodisc players, and a CD-ROM unit have been installed. Carpet and new furniture complete the renovation which will make this lab one of the outstanding facilities of its kind in the state.

We have also acquired videodiscs of the Louvre, the National Gallery of Art, German Language Learning discs, and a disc on the city of Vienna. The CALL lab is used by Modern Languages, OPIE, and Linguistics and is primarily a language learning lab as opposed to a word processing facility.

A Message From the Chair

Dear Alumni and Friends,

I am pleased to report that this has been a good year for the Department of Modern Languages. We are particularly grateful for the generous gift of \$29,000 from the estate of B. A. Renkenberger, who died last year. Professor Renkenberger taught here for more than four decades and served as chair of the department, before retiring in 1971. His bequest will allow our department to purchase new French books for Alden Library, a fitting memorial to a true gentleman who loved his university and his academic field.

With his devotion to high-quality instruction, Professor Renkenberger would be especially pleased to see the dedication of today's faculty and teaching associates to enhancing the classroom experience for all our students. Study abroad remains a vital part of the curriculum, attracting majors and minors in French, German, and Spanish, along with students from a large number of other disciplines. Evaluations written by our students both here and abroad are filled with references to the fine instruction from our staff. We are by no means complacent, however; constructive criticism helps us make a good curriculum even better.

A good curriculum is also strengthened by the many members of our department who are active in research. Scholarship in our field takes many forms, including work in literary history and criticism, theoretical and applied linguistics, culture and civilization, pedagogy and instructional media; the writing of textbooks and ancillary materials.

As the department moves eagerly into the 1990s, opportunities abound for continuing growth. The generosity of our alumni and other friends often makes a critical difference in helping us to realize our goals. This year I would like to encourage you to contribute to Ohio University's Third Century Campaign--and to designate your gift for the Department of Modern Languages in one of the following areas: general support of the department or a specific language area; study abroad (for general support or for a specific program); or scholarships, awards and other areas mentioned below.

Thank you in advance for your continuing support and enthusiasm.

Cordially,

Richard Danner
Professor and Chair

Third Century Campaign

The goal of the Third Century Campaign is to raise one-hundred million dollars and, although language people don't usually become millionaires, some of you may want to consider donating to some of the existing fund areas in the Department of Modern Languages. Our scholarships and awards are:

Mary L. Durnion (French),

Lash and Leete Memorial (shared by French and English),

Maxine McCrory Memorial (shared by Economics and Modern Languages)

Mary T. Noss (French),

Urda Traenkle Memorial (German),

Gerald T. Wilkinson Memorial Award (outstanding senior, French)

Other funds are:

Language/Computer Labs

Ohio Valley Foreign Language Alliance

First Modern Language Reunion Planned

We are planning a special Modern Language/Study-Abroad Reunion on November 9th, 1991. This is NOT the weekend of OU's Homecoming--we wanted to make it easier for you to find rooms in Athens. This year will mark the retirement of Wally Cameron and Ursula Lawson after many years of service to Ohio University. These events, along with our memories of the joys and trials of study abroad and years of language learning, will provide a special raison d'être for our first reunion. After years of reading "Say There," here's your chance to get back in the action and visit us!

Activities will start off with registration at the OU Inn. We have reserved ten rooms there; if you are planning to come, let us hear from you ASAP. We may still have time to make additional reservations. Tours of Ellis Hall and the language labs and new computer lab will take place on Saturday afternoon. There will be a reception at the Konneker Alumni Center, and, finally, a banquet and dance at Old Nelson Commons (your international tapes welcome). Look for a special mailing from the Alumni Office with registration forms and costs. If you have any suggestions or ideas for activities please contact either Patty Patten Cavender (614-593-4300) or Phil Richardson (614-593-2749). Plan now to join us and show that Modern Language people really know how to celebrate.

Retirements and Early Retirements

Ursula Lawson, German, will be retiring in June, 1991. Ursula has been a faculty member in the German section since 1967. She has been the director of several study-abroad programs in Germany and Austria and has directed numerous German plays on campus.

Wally Cameron will be teaching his last quarter in fall 1991. Wally has been on early retirement and teaching one quarter per year. As many of you will remember, Wally was instrumental in developing Spanish study-abroad programs and directed many of the programs in Mexico.

Tony Serna and Grafton Conliffe, Spanish, will be taking early retirement in June 1991. Early retirement means that they may teach one quarter per year until they reach retirement age.

Promotion

Maureen Weissenrieder, Spanish, has received a promotion to full professor.

New Faculty Members

Daniel Torres and **Betsy Partyka** have joined the Spanish staff this year. Daniel and Betsy have specialties in Latin American literature.

News From Study Abroad

Tours William and Marie-Claire Wrage are directing this year's study-abroad program in Tours. Twenty-five students are participating in the program which is taking place during spring quarter.

Merida David Burton directed the winter quarter program in Merida. Thirty-six students were enrolled in the program and two TAs accompanied David.

Salzburg Barry Thomas is in Salzburg with twelve students for the spring quarter.

Quito, Ecuador Abelardo Moncayo took thirty students to Quito last summer. Many of the activities were filmed on videocassette, and the editing of the film is now in progress.

Past Study Abroad Students

Tom Ernst (Fr) is a flight attendant with U.S. Air and would like to use his French when the company starts a new route, Philadelphia-Paris.

Spencer Hall (Fr, SA '69-70) is living in Chicago where he is working on a Master of Library Science degree. He has been back to Tours twice since his study abroad.

Rex Crawley (Fr,SA '85) is a transportation analyst for the New York State Department of Transportation in Albany. He completed an M.A. in public administration at Ohio University in '89.

John Lipold worked in New York City for a year and is now a student at Indiana University where he was awarded a Foreign Language Area Studies Fellowship.

He will study at Freie Universität (West Berlin) in fall '91 as part of his program.

News of Modern Language Graduates

1925

Dorothy Painter (Latin, Eng. Lit. '43) retired in 1984 after teaching since 1925.

1932

Catherine Wary (Fr, It, Lat) until retiring taught Latin and French in the Youngstown Schools. For 11 years after retirement, she taught an Italian class which was composed of seven retired teachers. They had taught foreign languages and were world travellers. Wary says "it was an ideal class."

1959

James A. Parr (M.A. '61,Sp,Fr,Lat) has left the University of Southern California after 20 years' service. He will join the University of California at Riverside.

A forthcoming book is titled Confrontaciones calladas: el critico frente al clasico (Madrid: Origenes, 1990).

1961

Inca (Kayon) Silver (Sp, It, Fr) is Chairman of the Foreign Language Department at Edgewater High School in Orlando, Florida. She is also president of the Orange County Foreign Language Teachers. Silver lives in Maitland, Florida.

1965

Karen (Bergvall) Wilde (Ger,Fr) sends us more information mentioned in Issue 16 of Say There, under the Abbie (Hartzel) Martin entry (1966) concerning embassy families and Bonn University students.

Wilde mentions that this is a program which has existed for over thirty years under the auspices of the American Women's Group, Embassy Bonn. As coordinator of the program for the past three years, she has matched up Embassy families with approximately eight Bonn University students of English (Anglistik) each. The family is then on its own to provide an evening of English conversation, American movies, slides, videos, etc. once a month during the school year. At present their organization has 13 conversation groups providing "homes" for approximately 100 students.

1966

Kathleen (Shannon) Williams (Fr) graduated from Ashland Theological Seminary with a Master of Divinity in

May, 1989, and is doing church work in the greater Cleveland area.

Her daughter, Meredith, is a freshman at Ohio University studying linguistics, sociology, and psychology.

1967

Sandra (Hill) Hatcher (Fr, Sp) is living in Mission Viejo, California.

Pat (DePompei) Little (Sp) is presently working part-time for American Airlines. Little lives in Richardson, Texas.

1970

Beverly (Wagner) Nelson (Fr) is currently a high school French teacher in Ft. Worth Independent School District. Nelson teaches 1st through 4th grade French and grades 9-12.

Nelson's husband, John, teaches medical practice management to resident M.D.'s at Southwestern Medical School at the University of Texas in Dallas. The Nelsons have two children, Monica and Valerie, ages 10 and 7.

Kathleen (Lowndes) Hanawalt (Ger) taught high school German for 10 years. For the past 12 years she has owned and operated a real-estate brokerage firm where many German clients invested in Sunbelt properties.

She has sponsored young German graduates doing their practicum in mortgage banking/finance. Hanawalt lives in Alta Loma, California.

Linda (Stuckey) Holden (Fr, Sp, Grk) lives in Gurnee, Illinois and is in her fourth year at a local community college teaching ESL. She comments that she really enjoys the classes and the contact with the inter-nationals.

Holden says "my experience at Ohio University, as well as while I was overseas with the junior-year-abroad program has proved to be invaluable."

1971

Suzanne (Bourgault) Marlay (Fr) is Director of International Programs at Arkansas State University where she advises and counsels all the foreign students. Marlay also coordinates exchange programs between ASU and universities overseas.

Spencer Hall (Fr, Rus) is a research associate with A.T. Kearney Management Consultants in Chicago. Hall and his wife Martha are the parents of a son, Alex.

Ana (Aspras) Steele (Rus, Chinese, Sp) was awarded her Ph.D. in Italian from The Johns Hopkins University on April 2, 1990.

Dr. Steele received an M.A. in 20th Century Italian Literature from Johns Hopkins in 1986 and an M.S. in Medieval Italian Literature and Italian Linguistics from Georgetown University in 1984.

Dr. Steele lives in Boulder, Colorado.

1972

Patty (Patten) Cavender (Ger) is Assistant Director of Alumni Relations at Ohio

University. Patty joined the staff in February of 1990 and she and her husband, Jim, are now residing in Athens. Since Konneker Alumni Center is across the street from Ellis Hall, she is still in close touch with her friends in languages.

1973

Robin (Axelrod) Stone (Sp, It) has been a reading teacher in the Westford Public Elementary Schools for the past three years. She also works with ESL students. Stone commented that her Spanish really came in handy when a Mexican girl attending their school couldn't communicate with anyone except her. She said she "was delighted to use her Spanish again."

Stone is married with two sons, ages 8 1/2 and 4.

Linda Breen (Sp) served in the Peace Corps in Ecuador for one year after graduating in 1973. She then lived in Korea for one year and taught ESL. Since that time, Breen has been a bilingual/Spanish teacher for 10 years in the Chelsea School System.

Breen graduated in June, 1990 from the Suffolk University Law School in Boston and would like to pursue a career in Immigration Law.

1974

Linda Thalman (Ger) lives in France where she co-founded an English language school near Paris, France. She teaches EFL to children, teens, and adults. She uses her German, French, and Spanish in her many travels throughout Europe. Thalman has lived in France for 10 years.

1976

Cheri Damschroder (Sp) has lived in Vermont since 1986 and has been teaching Spanish at Trinity College in Burlington. She is the mother of two sons.

Sheryl (Somers) Cook (Sp) lives in Atlanta, Georgia where she is sales manager of ATLANTA Magazine. Sheryl is the mother of twin daughters, Madeline and Stephanie, born March 9, 1990.

Kevin Kehoe (Sp, Fr) is vice president and deputy branch manager for International Banking for Manufacturers, Hanover. Kehoe lives in Istanbul, Turkey with his wife **Barbara** (Stanley, B.A. '77, M.B.A. '79) and daughters, Emily, 4 years, and Jane, 1 year.

Signe Denbow teaches at Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo, Michigan.

1977

Barbara Ann Stanley (Fr, Ger, Sp) lives in Istanbul, Turkey with her husband **Kevin Kehoe** ('76) and two daughters, Emily and Jane. She retired from a banking position in New York City to go to Turkey with her husband.

1978

Rebecca (Smith) Ramsey (Fr) is living in Arden Hills, Minnesota with her husband **Bill** ('81) after he was transferred to St. Paul in February, 1989. Ramsey still keeps in touch several times a year with her host family from her stay in Tours in 1977.

1983

Luis Contreras (Sp, Fr) is currently finishing his law degree at Central University of Santiago. Contreras lives in Chillan, Chile.

Valdez Ladd (M.A. '89,Sp, Fr, Jap) is now teaching English in Nagoya, Japan and is also studying Japanese.

1984

Lynne Huffer (Fr,HTC) is an assistant professor of French at Yale University. She visited with Lois Vines and Rich Danner at the national conference of the American Association of Teachers of French in New Orleans this past summer.

Paul Zito (Ger) is living and working in the Los Angeles area where he is employed by the international division of a motion picture production and distribution company.

Zito sells the overseas rights to motion pictures and deals with every country outside of the United States. He travels twice a year to Europe: to Milan and to Cannes.

Zito graduated in 1985 from the American Graduate School of International Management (Thunderbird) with a master's degree in International Management.

1985

Dan Schaffer (MA '85,Sp, Ger) has been teaching for the past two years for the Department of Defense Dependents Schools at Frankfurt's American High School. Schaffer was married in July to Ursula Kummerle who

studies Germanistik at the University at Heidelberg.

They returned to Ohio for a wedding reception and honeymooned in Canada before returning to Germany.

Carl Sobocinski (Fr) just completed four years as a naval officer and plans to earn an M.A. in history at Kent State.

1986

Nelly (Guerrero) Geiss (Sp) lives in Silver Springs, Maryland and works as an interpreter for the Spanish-speaking community of Great Commission International. The organization has many branches in Latin America and serves as an exchange program for Latin American and American students.

1987

Lisa Gowans (Fr, Sp) is currently regional director of sales for Oak Tree Hotels, a 5-star resort company with her office being located in Washington, D.C. She is also taking French classes through a local graduate school. She lives in Arlington, Virginia. Gowans would be interested in getting together with other language alumni in the D.C. area once a month. If an organization already exists in that area, please let us know and we'll pass on the information to Lisa.

1988

Karen (Adamczyk) Beavers (Sp) teaches Spanish and coaches girls' softball at Woodridge High School in Peninsula, Ohio. She is working towards a master's of Spanish at Kent State University.

1989

Bob Satava (Fr) enjoys his work as a translator for Technical Translation Services in Cleveland. In addition to dealing with the written language, he also has the opportunity to speak French with the director and other employees.

Wendy Patriquin (Fr) has been teaching English to immigrants and refugees in Philadelphia. She enjoys her volunteer work and plans to earn an M.A. in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages.

1990

Sarah Kilfoil (Fr) just returned from a fall quarter internship with ABC News in Paris, where she enjoyed working and perfecting her French. She also visited her study-abroad family in Tours.

Michelle Lewandowski (Fr) is teaching English to junior high level students in Japan for a year.

Ruth Gaertner (M.A. '90) joined the Peace Corps, which sent her to teach English at Beni Mellal University in Morocco. She enjoys her teaching and is using her French a lot. (Since this was written, Ruth has returned to the U.S. All Peace Corps volunteers were evacuated from Morocco).

Nathalie Gatoux (Fr), who received a commission as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army, is serving with Operation Desert Storm in Saudi Arabia. She would appreciate hearing from any of her friends. Her address is 2LT. Gatoux #281-76-5394, Charlie Company 503, Forward Support Battalion, APO NY 09680-6440.

Outstanding Graduating Seniors in the Class of '90

French:
Sarah Kilfoil

German:
Michael Sirak

Spanish:
Maritza Rodriguez

Scholarships for Academic Year 1990-91

Maxine McCrory Memorial:
Heather Morgan
Christopher Scott

Mary L. Durnion:
Tracy McKenica
Catherine Richter

Mary T. Noss:
Jeremy Holman
Heather Slough

Urda Traenkle Memorial:
Christopher Scott

Gerald T. Wilkinson Memorial Award
Sarah Kilfoil

Full-time Faculty

French
Richard Danner (Chair)
Ruth Nybakken
Herta Rodina
Lois Vines
Marie-Claire Wrage
William Wrage

German
Waltraud Bald
Noel Barstad
Joseph Burns
Carl Carrier
Ursula Lawson
Barry Thomas

Italian
Bartolomeo Martello

Russian
Stephen Eschner
Joseph Ipacs

Spanish
David Burton
Grafton Conliffe
Thomas Franz
Maria Luque-Eckrich
Abelardo Moncayo-Andrade
Betsy Partyka
Manuel Serna-Maytorena
Daniel Torres
Gladys Von Hoff
Maureen Weissenrieder

Language and Computer Labs
Phil Richardson

Staff

Joyce Mills, Secretary
Ruth Savage, Lab Secretary
Greg Weinfurtner, Technician

Please be sure to contact us with any news not reported here in "Say There" or with any news incorrectly or incompletely reported. We'd be more than happy to help reunite alums by disclosing addresses of anyone who has corresponded with us. Also, if you haven't sent us an ALUM REPORT, please do so and tell us what you're doing. We'd all love to hear from you!

KEEP IN TOUCH!

NAME _____
Last First Maiden Degree/Yr

ADDRESS _____
Street City State Zip Code

LANGUAGES STUDIED AT OU _____

PLEASE LIST ANY CURRENT NEWS ABOUT YOURSELF FOR "SAY THERE."

Is your job language related? If so, would you describe it in more detail?

If you know the addresses of any other alums or if you know any news that might be of interest to our alums, please give that information in the space below and we will publish it in the next issue:

We have extra copies of all the earlier issues of "SAY THERE." If you would like to receive a copy of ones you missed, just ask for them: You can call 614-593-2749

This questionnaire should be returned to:

C.P. Richardson
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Ellis Hall
Ohio University
Athens, Ohio 45701-2979