Welcome Professor Gott

The department welcomes new assistant professor of French, Michael Gott, a specialist in contemporary French and Francophone cinema and cultural studies. Coming to Cincinnati marks a return for Michael, an Ohio native and 2002 graduate of Ohio State University, who studied French and European Studies. Before starting at UC, Michael earned a MA from UCLA (2006) and a PhD in 2011 from the University of Texas at Austin and held a visiting position at the University of Pennsylvania (2012). He also taught English at the University of Paris 13 while completing his dissertation research.

Michael’s research focuses on identity issues in a cultural context, notably French and wider European responses to immigration, European unification, and globalization. His current work is on the French-language road movie, a genre that has been increasingly prevalent in recent years. He co-edited the first book on the topic, Open Roads, Closed Borders: The Contemporary French Language Road Movie, published in 2013 by Intellect Books. The collection explores the positive and negative sides of recent mobility and migration and suggests that the most promising new models for diverse French and European citizenship can be found at the movies. Michael also enjoys working on and teaching the French-language comic book, or bande-dessinée, an extremely popular artistic form in France.

During the 2012-13 academic year, Michael is teaching courses on contemporary French literature, culture in the Francophone world, and contemporary French culture. Michael is also helping the department expand its offerings of cinema courses, developing classes on the French and Francophone Road Movie and others that use cinema to introduce students to the geography, culture, society, and economy of France. In spring 2014 Michael will teach a newly developed course called “French Business on the Big Screen: Cinematic Perspectives on Work and the Economy.” The class is designed to introduce students to the ways that France, the planet’s 5th largest economy, sees the world of business, economics, and work. The course aims to expand on the French language studies on campus by asking students to critically examine what culture tells us about French business culture and the economy, allowing them to develop an understanding of the broader purposes of cultural and language studies and how they might be applied to careers in business, marketing, economics, and government. The course will also take advantage of the high concentration of corporate headquarters in Cincinnati, using interactions with people doing business in the French-speaking world as an experimental learning opportunity.

Study Abroad

The Department’s study abroad programs are doing well and serving our students by providing wonderful opportunities to improve their language skills, see the world, and serve other communities. The Madrid program, led by Prof. Gott, took 38 students to Madrid in 2012. They spent 4 to 6 weeks living with Spanish families and studying at the Don Quijote language school. The program has a strong cultural component. The Guatemala program, led by Prof. Rodríguez had 10 students; they studied for 4 or 6 weeks at the Centro Cultural de Paris, in Antigua Guatemala, and did service learning in a variety of institutions in the area. The Caen program, under the leadership of Prof. Jézéquel spent 3 weeks in France. After three days in Paris, the students attended the Université de Caen. They spent three weeks at the Campus of the University taking languages and civilisation classes as well as discovering the historical city and the region of Normandy.

The 32nd Cincinnati Conference on Romance Languages and Literatures took place on May 3-5.

The keynote speakers were Madeline Monette, the Quebecois author, and Fernando Burgos from University of Memphis. Many thanks are in order to all the participants who came from a number of colleges and universities. The conference was a success thanks to the hard work of Nidia Herrera and Leah Hunt, co-chairs of the Conference, as well as to the two Faculty advisors, Carlos Gutierrez and Anne-Marie Jezéquel. At the banquet we had the presence of the Provost Santa Ono, as well as the Taft Visiting Professor Oscar Collazo. In 2013 the CCLRL will take place on April 4-6, under the topic “Globalization and Cultural Diversity.” Our keynote speakers will be Lydie E. Moudouli from U of Pennsylvania, and William Egginton, from The Johns Hopkins University. Many thanks to Prof. Maria Par Moreno for her leadership, and to David Gómez Cambonero and Julia Camp, co-chairs.
Dear Friends of Romance languages and literature, it is a pleasure to present to you the Honor Roll of Donors from the 2012-2013 academic year. The University of Cincinnati is no longer accepting gifts to the Department of Physics and/or the specific fund of your choice! In order to protect the identities of our supporters, we will not list any other questions regarding a gift to the Department of Physics and/or the specific fund of your choice!

Francois Buffle (French, History) is studying for a year at La Sorbonne in Paris, France.

Carlyl Fitter (Spanish, Mechanical Engineering) received a $12,000 undergraduate presidential Leadership Medal of Excellence.

This year we have the following individuals for their generous support to the department from January to December 2013. These gifts fund scholarships, attract and retain the finest faculty, and support our ongoing mission to educate our undergraduate and graduate students.

From the Head

Aline Skrzeweski

Patricia O'Connor

Aline Skrzeweski

Patricia O'Connor

McMicken

Your Generosity is Appreciated

In order to protect the identities of our supporters, the University of Cincinnati is no longer accepting credit card payments through the mail, online, or by phone.

To make a gift via credit card, please visit www.uc.edu giving to the Department of Physics and/or the specific fund of your choice!

To learn more about the benefits of giving in kind contribution or a gift of appreciated stock, or for any other questions regarding a gift to the Department of Physics and/or the specific fund of your choice, please contact Chris A. Eden, Assistant Director of Development, at 513-556-0192 or Christopher.Eden@uc.edu

Patrice DuFOUR attended the Medellin School of Theatre and Performance Research. He presented two papers at the World Congress on Romance Languages and Literatures.

Andrés Prieto-Simón attended the The Mill School of Theatre and Performance Research. He presented a paper on “Exploring the theatrical space in performance” at the Mill School of Theatre and Performance Research.

Ettore Achille published an article in French Review, presented one paper, and published three book reviews in the French Review.

Sergio Aguillon-Mata received the “Jóvenes Creadores” Award by the Mexican Institute Fonca (2011-2012) for a short story and published an essay in Mexican Mosaic (2012-2013). He also published a short story anthology, “Historias de Guadalajara.”

Manuel Montes received the “Jóvenes Creadores” Award by the Mexican Institute Fonca (2011-2012). He also published a short story anthology, “Historias de Guadalajara.”

Aline Skrzeweski presented three papers: one at the Kentucky Foreign Language Conference, one at the meeting of the African Literature Association in Dallas, TX, and another one at the Conference in Romance Languages and Literatures.

Ettore Achille received a book of poetry, published two poems in The American Journal of French Studies, and presented three papers at the World Congress on Romance Languages and Literatures.

Nadia Herrera was co-chair of the Cincinnati Conference on Romance Languages and Literatures, and presented a paper at Ohio State University.

Patricia O’Connor translated Anaelle Desprez’s play, Vives pour l’Avenir, presented one paper at the World Congress on Romance Languages and Literatures, and published a book of poetry, published two poems in The American Journal of French Studies, and presented three papers at the World Congress on Romance Languages and Literatures.

Milton Medellin presented three papers. One at Ohio State University, another one at the Cincinnati Conference on Romance Languages and Literatures, and another one at the Conference in Romance Languages and Literatures in the U.S. and Latin America, in Mexico.

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