

January 2017

department of
romance languages & literatures
college of arts and science | university of missouri

A note from the Chair.....



Dear Colleagues and Friends of Romance Languages and Literatures:

Happy New Year and welcome to another semester. As featured in this Bulletin, our faculty, students, and alumni continue to excel in their achievements, enhancing the visibility and reputation of our Department and programs. Let me offer a public welcome to our new Director of the Afro-Romance Institute, Dr. Adriana Méndez Rodenas, who assumes this mantle of leadership from Professor Flore Zéphir, exemplary Director for the past eight years.

My sincerest congratulations and thanks to all of you for your continuing contributions to our Department.

Best wishes,

Charles D. Presberg

Familiar Faces



Wendy McBurney (Ph.D.) and Vida Aidoo (MALT) were proud graduates in December, 2016



Professors Flore Zéphir and Mamadou Badiane (2nd & 3rd from left) presenting papers at the MU Black Studies conference, October 15, 2016

Upcoming Events

SPRING 2017



NEXT FACULTY MEETING: Friday, February 10, 2017, A&S 113, 4:00-5:00 pm

CALENDAR ITEM: Faculty & Graduate Student Seminar—Friday, March 17, 2017 at 4:00 PM, in A&S Room 113 (Graduate Student Panel: "Narrativas de y por mujeres en el cine latinoamericano")

Please share your accomplishments! Send Jack Draper (draperj@missouri.edu) or Flore Zéphir (zephirf@missouri.edu) any items you wish to appear in the Bulletin by the third Monday of every month. Please include relevant contact information to receive feedback from the departmental community. Related photos can also be sent with your message, and will be included if possible.

Good News and Accomplishments

- **Flore Zéphir** deserves hearty congratulations after completing a distinguished tenure as Director of the Afro-Romance Institute from 2008-2017. (zephirf@missouri.edu)
- **Roberta Tabanelli** published "Authorial Visions: Saverio Costanzo's Negotiation with Auteurism" (2016) and "Transnational Memories: An Interview with Marco Bechis" (2017) in the *Journal of Italian Cinema & Media Studies*. Her textbook *Strategies for Writing in Italian* (Edizioni Farinelli, 2016) was also published. (tabanellir@missouri.edu)
- **Aliuska Molina Placeres's** poem "Ronda infantil / A Children's Round" was published in English translation in the poetry anthology *The Other Tiger: Recent Poetry from Latin America*. (am3n7@mail.missouri.edu)
- In January 2017, we welcome our new colleague **Adriana Méndez-Rodenas** to the department as an incoming Professor of Spanish and the new Director of the Afro-Romance Institute. (mendezah@missouri.edu)
- **Wendy McBurney** (Ph.D.) and **Vida Aidoo** (MALT) graduated in December, 2016 (see photos on p. 1).
- Alumna **Dandi Daley Mackall** (B.A. in French) will have three new children's books published in 2017—*One Small Donkey: A Christmas Story* (cover below); *Rockaway Granny*; and *With Love, Wherever You Are*. (dandi@dandibooks.com)
- **Seth Compaore** published an article in *Chimères* (Vol. XXXIII) titled "La représentation de l'islam obscurantiste dans Qu'Allah bénisse la France (2014) de Abd al Malik". (ascdtb@mail.missouri.edu)
- **Mamadou Badiane** and **Flore Zéphir** both presented papers in a panel entitled "Imagining New Spaces: Race, Nation, and Resistance in the Caribbean" at the 2016 MU Black Studies Conference (see photo on p. 1). (badianem@missouri.edu; zephirf@missouri.edu)

