Dear Colleagues and Friends of Romance Languages and Literatures:

In this final letter from me as Department Chair, please accept my sincerest thanks. First, my thanks to all of you who receive and read this Bulletin. Thank you, as well, to all faculty, students, and alumni whose stellar achievements we have announced in this space and whose recent achievements we announce with pride in our current issue. Thank you to Professors Jack Draper and Flore Zéphir for assuming and performing with skill, respectively, their roles here as Editor and Associate Editor. Thank you to my predecessor, Flore Zéphir, for the courage she displays in agreeing to return to her leadership role as successor to her successor. Thank you to our outstanding Office Staff, Ms. Stacey Andreasen and Ms. Brenda Klemme, for their work of selfless, quiet heroism on behalf of everyone in our department. And lastly, I express my profoundest thanks to Dr. Mary Jo Muratore, Associate Chair and Director of Graduate Studies, for allowing me during these past three years to rely on her wisdom, diligence, and patience. Without denying hardships we have all suffered these past years, we can remain thankful, I believe, for our commitment to the welfare of one another and for our continuing commitment to excellence. Adversity will pass. Our commitments endure.

With all best wishes,

Charles D. Presberg

Familiar Faces

Nadege Uwase (c) with fellow inductees at the MU Rollins Society induction ceremony, April 14, 2017

Organizers Flore Zéphir and Mamadou Badiane at the College Language Association Conference, April 6, 2017

Upcoming Events

FALL 2017

NEXT FACULTY MEETING: TBA

CALENDAR ITEM: Prof. Expedito Leandro Silva of the University of Santo Amaro, Brazil, “Cultural Elements of Amazonian and Caribbean Brazil in the State of Pará,” Friday, September 22, 2017 at 4:00 pm

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

• Celia Alpuche May (caa5z5@mail.missouri.edu) received a Professional Presentation Travel Award from the MU Graduate School to present a paper at the Contemporary Mexican Literature Conference in El Paso, Texas.

• Congratulations to our recent graduates for their new university positions! In French, Rochelle Baldridge Compaoré (krbrmd@missouri.edu) was hired at Southeast Missouri State University, and Aurélia Mouzet (amh47@missouri.edu) was hired in a tenure-track position at the University of Arizona, Tucson. In Spanish, Danilo León (leonda@earlham.edu) is moving to a position at Colorado State University, Pueblo and José Carreño Medina (jcarreno@truman.edu) was hired at Truman State University, both tenure-track jobs.

• Juanamaria Cordones-Cook (cordonescookj@missouri.edu) received two awards for her documentaries at the XV Festival “Santiago Álvarez In Memoriam,” in March 2017: one from the Centro Provincial de Casas de Cultura, and one from the Centro Provincial del Libro y la Literatura y el Centro de Promoción Literaria José Soler Puig. She also gave a closing lecture, entitled "Ediciones Vigía, Estévez, and the Art of the Book", at Binding Communities: The Art of the Book and Entrepreneurship, an Ediciones Vigia exhibit (see logo below) at the University of Arkansas, Little Rock.

• Jack Draper’s (draperj@missouri.edu) project to translate and publish a critical edition of Mário Filho’s classic O negro no futebol brasileiro (The Black Man in Brazilian Soccer) was awarded a grant by the Latin America in Translation Series for translation and publication with the University of North Carolina Press.

• Alumna Dandi Daley Mackall (B.A. in French) recently published With Love, Wherever You Are (Tyndale House, 2017; see cover, p. 3), a novel about her parents who were an Army doctor and nurse in World War II. (dandi@dandibooks.com)

• Adriana Méndez Rodenas (mendezah@missouri.edu) published both “Picturing Cuba: Romantic Ecology in Gómez de Avellaneda’s Sab (1841),” Gender and the Politics of Literature: Gertrudis Gómez de Avellaneda, Ed. María C. Albin, Megan Corbin, and Raúl Marrero-Fente, Hispanic Issues On Line 18 (2017), as well as “‘Picturing Eden’: Contesting Fredrika Bremer’s Tropics” in Contesting Environmental Imaginaries, ed. Steven Hartman (Brill Rodopi, 2017).

• Many thanks to our outgoing Chair Charles Presberg (presbergc@missouri.edu) for his hard work on behalf of the department over his term ending this summer. Our hearty congratulations go to Flore Zéphir (zephirf@missouri.edu), who won election and was approved by Dean Okker as our next Chair beginning AY 2017-18.
Good News and Accomplishments

- Aliuska Molina Placeres’s (am3n7@mail.missouri.edu) poetry collection, written under her pen name Alessandra Molina, *Algodón del sueño, cuchillo de los zapatos* (link; also see cover below), has received a new edition this year with the new Cuban publishing house, Rialta Ediciones.

- Mary Jo Muratore (muratorem@missouri.edu) was nominated for an Outstanding Departmental Graduate Studies Advisor Award in the Spring 2017 semester.

- Ginna Salamán Sánchez (gms54d@mail.missouri.edu), Milena Rondón (jrhh4@mail.missouri.edu), Verónica Pérez Picasso (vrp279@mail.missouri.edu), and Celia Alpuche May presented in the 70th Annual Kentucky Foreign Languages Conference at the University of Kentucky, Lexington. Their joint panel was entitled “Subversión de género en los discursos cinematográficos en Latinoamérica.”

- Alyssa Smith (amsh68@mail.missouri.edu), under the direction of Béa Gallimore (gallimorer@missouri.edu), and Aurélie Mouzet, under the co-direction of Mamadou Badiane and Mary Jo Muratore (muratoremj@missouri.edu), completed their PhDs in French in the Spring 2017 semester. In the fall, Alyssa begins her job as a French teacher at Platte County R-III High School in Kansas City, MO.

- Nadege Uwase (nu4x9@mail.missouri.edu) was inducted into the MU Rollins Society, in recognition of her dedication to service and community engagement well beyond the scope of her academic program (see photo on p. 1).

- Juan Wang (wangjuan@missouri.edu) attended the training session on Teaching Business French sponsored by the French Embassy, May 22-27, 2017, at Truman State University. In addition, her article titled "De la pervenche de Rousseau à la Recherche de Proust" has been accepted for publication in *Romance Notes*. 
Mamadou Badiane (badianem@missouri.edu) and Flore Zéphir were lead organizers of a very successful College Language Association (CLA) Conference hosted by the Afro-Romance Institute and our department at MU, April 5-8, 2017 (see picture on p.1 and below).

The CLA conference included the participation of many of our graduate students and faculty, including a panel of paper presentations chaired by Mary Jo Muratore entitled “Counterdiction: Reclaiming Discursive Authority—a Francophone Studies Panel” with the participation of Rochelle Baldridge Compaoré, Dan Higgins, Falone Domle and Seth Compaoré. On another panel, Aurélie Mouzet presented a paper entitled “The Black Atlantic Writes Back: White Tool/Black Weapon to Decolonize the Mind.”

(L to R) Aurélie Mouzet, Mary Jo Muratore, Rochelle Baldridge Compaoré, Seth Compaoré, and Adriana Méndez Rodenas at the College Language Association Conference Reception, April 6, 2017