

Big Give newsletter (email) March 2022

Karl Britto has been appointed as Associate Dean of the Arts & Humanities Division of the College of Letters & Science – Congratulations Karl! Karl published "["Madame, je ne suis pas une jeune fille": Phạm Duy Khiêm's *La Place d'un homme*"](#) in the Oct. 2020 issue of *French Studies*, and is currently working on an essay comparing Graham Greene's *The Quiet American* and Anna Moï's *Le venin du papillon*. In other news, Karl has joined the editorial boards of two new publishing initiatives involving [DVAN](#) (The Diasporic Vietnamese Artists Network). DVAN is collaborating with Kaya Press to publish diasporic literary works, especially in translation; the first will be Line Papin's *Les os des filles*, which is slated to appear in English translation from DVAN/Kaya later this year. DVAN is also [collaborating](#) with Texas Tech University Press on a series that will specifically publish Vietnamese and Southeast Asian American novels, memoirs, poetry, anthologies, and graphic novels.

Will Burton joined our faculty this year from Columbia University. Will brings broad expertise in 18th- and 20th-century French literature and philosophy, with special interest in gender, sexuality, and feminism, and they have created several innovative courses, including this semester's "Montreal: Colonization, Urbanization, Migration" and "Elles: Solidarity, Desire and Conflict between Women."

Déborah Blocker has a new book, scheduled to appear this August: ["Le Principe de plaisir : savoirs, esthétique et politique dans la Florence des Médicis \(XVIe-XVIIe siècles\)"](#), published with Les Belles Lettres (Paris). Déborah is on sabbatical leave, and is currently a Senior Researcher in residence at the [École Française de Rome](#), working on a project entitled "Uses and conceptualizations of the "arts" among two major aristocratic lineages of the Mediterranean, the Strozzi and the Montmorency (1550-1700)." Prior to her research in Rome, Déborah was a Senior Research Fellow at the Freie Universität in Berlin working with Professor Ulrike Schneider and Dr Veronica Vestri on a project entitled "["Discussing Poetry and Aesthetics in Late Renaissance Florence: the Accademia degli Alterati at work in BMLF Ashburnham 560 and 561."](#)

Tim Hampton has been selected by the Academic Senate to give this year's [Meyerson Research Lecture](#). Tim will deliver his lecture entitled "Cheerfulness and the Fate of Reading," at 4 PM in the Chevron Auditorium at International House on April 11, 2022. This lecture is based on his forthcoming book with Princeton University Press, ["Cheerfulness: A Literary and Cultural History"](#). Tim also has a string of forthcoming articles and chapters, including "Murders Most Foul: Myth and Violence in Bob Dylan" (in ["Bob Dylan et les mythes"](#), University of Aix-en-Provence); "Joachim du Bellay and the Peace of Vaucelles: Lyric Poetry and Diplomatic Negotiation" (in *Early Modern Studies*); "Signed, Sealed, Delivered: Ratification and the Time of Tragedy" (in *Early Modern Peacemaking*, edited by Diego Pirillo and Isabella Lazzarini (Oxford UP)); "La rhétorique de la description et l'intérêt littéraire chez Marguerite de Navarre," (in a festschrift for Ullrich Langer, edited by Virginia Krause (Paris: Champion)); "Listening to Dylan Listening," (in *American Literary History*). Be sure to check out Tim's many other recent essays on his website www.timothyhampton.org. Tim also was featured in [a podcast on Cervantes' Don Quixote](#), part of a series on "Books that Changed the World."

Michael Lucey also has a new book, [What Proust Heard: Novels and the Ethnography of Talk](#), just out this month with the University of Chicago Press. Celebrating Marcel Proust's centenary, the "Books that Changed the World" podcast series recently featured Michael in [a podcast about Proust](#). Michael also edited [a special issue of Paragraph](#) on Proust with contributions by both **Ty Blakeney** and **Ben Beitler**. Michael also recently published an article "How You Read *Madame Bovary*" in the Fall 2021 issue of *Representations*.

Mairi McLaughlin published [La Presse française historique. Histoire d'un genre et histoire de la langue](#) with Classiques Garnier in 2021, and just this week published a [special issue of L2 Journal on The Future of Translation in Higher Education](#), featuring an [article](#) by recent RLL PhD grad **Emily Linares**. Mairi is also hard at work editing with Wendy Ayres-Bennett the monumental *Oxford Handbook of the French Language*.

Rick Kern and **Vesna Rodic** are on the team that was awarded a Berkeley Discovery Departmental Innovation Award, which is part of the new multi-year Discovery Initiative on campus. Through the Discovery Initiative, we have expanded the language classroom beyond a textbook and a language lab to include experiential learning on campus, in the local communities, and through video-conferencing exchanges with students from Aix-Marseille Université. Our Discovery Language courses integrate the study of language and culture through inquiry, the study of primary sources, and project-based learning. We have developed a curriculum built on curiosity and engagement, where students discover relevant societal topics through lively discussions of materials, an immediate experience of the research process and creative assignments. Rick and Vesna recently published a chapter related to this project, "Toward the Greening of the Intermediate French Language Curriculum" in *Education for Sustainable Development in Foreign Language Learning*, edited by María de la Fuente (Routledge, 2022).

Margot Szarke will present her work on early French vaccine literature on April 28 for the *Dix-neuf at a Distance* online seminar. Margot's forthcoming article on the subject, entitled "Textual 'Piqûres': Vaccination in the Hands of Nineteenth-Century French Writers," will appear later this year in *Nineteenth-Century French Studies*.