Foreign Languages and Literatures (FL&L) is dedicated to providing MIT students with the tools for a sensitive and successful involvement in the global community by contributing to the internationalization of their MIT education. During AY2011, FL&L faculty continued to provide national and international leadership in the fields of foreign language pedagogy, technology in the humanities, and literary and cultural studies, while demonstrating their commitment to educational excellence within the Institute.

Highlights of the Year

Senior lecturer in Spanish Douglas Morgenstern retired from MIT after 31 years of service, during which he taught all levels of language classes. Morgenstern’s principal research field was educational multimedia for language learning and teaching. At MIT, he was codirector of No recuerdo, an interactive video project for intermediate-level college students; he was also the author, the producer, and the principal designer of the narrative. Morgenstern has published on methodology, simulation, and interactive video, and the numerous papers, workshops, and minicourses he has given in his field have afforded him the opportunity to present throughout the United States (US) and in Canada, France, the Netherlands, Norway, and Spain.

Associate professor Ian Condry was a visiting scholar at Waseda University, Tokyo, in fall 2010. Assistant professor of French studies Bruno Perreau was awarded the Newton International Fellowship from Cambridge University, under the supervision of professor Jackie Scott. Senior lecturer Ellen Crocker and lecturer Lissette Soto both received Language Instruction Enhancement Fund Awards to develop projects. Lecturers Margarita Groeger and Min-Min Liang received the Gilberte Furstenberg and Douglas Morgenstern Fund Award for innovative teaching. Lecturer Peter Weise was nominated for the Everett Moore Baker Memorial Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching. Lecturer Cathy Culot was awarded the Dean’s Faculty Development Award in support of her participation in the 2011 International Journal of Arts and Sciences Conference, held in Aix-en-Provence, France.

During the fall semester, FL&L hosted visiting professor Carlos Ramos (Wellesley College), and in the spring semester hosted visiting professor Thomas Nolden (Wellesley College).

In AY2011, FL&L hosted talks and events by several outside guests. The founder and chairman of Quanta Computer, Barry Lam, presented “The Beauty of Chinese Painting” in November 2010. Professor Yves Citton (University of Grenoble) presented “The Humanities’ Choice: Knowledge Economy or Culture of Interpretation” in February 2011. In addition, FL&L welcomed the Lebanese-born actress, memoirist, and filmmaker Darina al-Joundi, who performed in the American premiere of the play “Le Jour où Nina Simone a cessé de chanter/The Day Nina Simone Stopped Singing.” The play, originally directed by Alain Timar, is a first-person account of a young woman attaining social, intellectual, and sexual freedom amid the violence of civil war in Beirut.
Professor Shigeru Miyagawa received grants from the Japan Foundation, the Henry Luce Foundation, and the Department of Education for his Visualizing Cultures project, which he leads along with professor and Pulitzer Prize–winning historian John Dower. Professor Miyagawa also received a School of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences (SHASS) Teaching and Learning Fund grant for his Very Fast Track (VFT) projects in Chinese and Japanese. Associate professor of Japanese cultural studies Ian Condry was awarded a long-term research grant from the Japan Foundation for his research project The Uses of Social Media: An Ethnographic Comparison of Japan and the US. Associate professor Emma Teng was awarded the Alex and Brit d’Arbeloff Fund for Excellence in Education grant along with the SHASS Teaching Innovation Fund grant.

The Visualizing Cultures project, codirected by Professors Miyagawa and Dower, cosponsored its second international conference, Visualizing Asia in the Modern World, with Harvard University’s Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies and Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies, at Harvard University in May 2011.

The MIT/Harvard Cool Japan Research Project, under the supervision of Professor Condry, explored issues surrounding social media and cultural action. Two key events involved panel discussions at Waseda University in Tokyo in November 2010 and at MIT in February 2011. The events included scholars and activists talking about experiments in social change in today’s rapidly changing media environment. In the wake of the earthquake and tsunami in Japan in March 2011, the Cool Japan research project began what will be a series of brainstorming and networking sessions aimed at developing a long-term, culturally sensitive response to the difficulties in the region, including a collaboration with senior lecturer Shun Kanda in the Department of Architecture.

FL&L offered the French cultural immersion program January Scholars in France as a six-unit credit-bearing subject that included lectures, seminars, papers, and a final exam. The program was led by professor Edward Turk and gave seven undergraduate students a two-week experience in Paris, where they focused on French arts, letters, and history during MIT’s Independent Activities Period (IAP).

Additionally during IAP, FL&L offered Spanish II (Study Abroad) for the fifth time. The class was held in Madrid, where 24 students began their travel and language learning experience. Lecturer in Spanish Lissette Soto taught Spanish to the students and led them through many cultural experiences during the month of January.

The Japanese VFT, which is composed of two half-semester courses, doubles the classroom time from four hours to eight hours, and nearly triples the material covered. The course was offered for the first time in spring 2011, by Yoshimi Nagaya, director of the Japanese language program. Conceptualized by Professor Miyagawa, the first offering was a great success, and the Chinese VFT is planned to start in spring 2012.

FL&L’s Center for Bilingual/Bicultural Studies (CB/BS) hosted a series of talks at MIT in AY2011. “Affirmative Action and National Identity: The View from France” was given by Professor Perreau. Other highlights included the talk (cosponsored by the Women and Gender Studies [WGS] program) “An Assemblage of Fragments: Post-war Returns
in Vietnam and the Diaspora,” given by Chuong-Dai Vo, a Mellon postdoctoral fellow. Tess Wise (Class of 2011 FL&L/Political Science) presented the paper “New Holes in Swiss Cheese? How Institutions Influence the Swiss Naturalization Process.” In addition, AY2011 was the inaugural year of the Isabelle de Courtivron student writing competition and prizes went to Muriel Lantosoa Rambelosarison and Xinzhu Wang. Prize-winning author and CB/BS codirector Kym Ragusa was one of the judges.

During AY2011, members of FL&L participated in many foreign language and literature–related activities outside MIT. S.C. Fang professor of Chinese language and culture Jing Wang continued her service on the editorial board and/or advisory board for The Chinese Journal of Communication and Society, Global Media and Communication, Portal: Journal of Multidisciplinary International Studies, Inter-Asia Cultural Studies Journal: Movements, Chinese Journal of Communication, positions: east asia cultures critique, Advertising & Society Review, Taiwan: A Radical Quarterly in Social Studies, the Cultural Studies Series at Hong Kong University Press, Wikimedia Foundation, Creative Commons China Mainland, Research Association of Asian Consumer Lifestyles, The Creative Economy: International and Chinese Perspectives, and the Critiques/Cultural Studies book series for Ju-liu Publications. In addition, Professor Wang served on the board of the Centre for Research on Social and Cultural Change in China at the University of Technology in Sydney, as well as the Media Industries Research Centre at the University of Leeds. Professor Wang also continued her service as a visiting professor at the Institute of Knowledge Management at the University of Science and Technology of China, Hefei, Anhui, China.

Professor Condry continued to serve as the outside evaluator for Jose Nevgilia (Ethnomusicology, University of California, Berkeley) and Jennifer Fu (Comparative Media Studies [CMS]). Professor Teng served as a referee for peer-reviewed journals, including The China Quarterly and Late Imperial China. Associate professor Margery Resnick continued her work as president of the International Institute in Madrid, and senior lecturer Jane Dunphy served on the board of directors. Dunphy also did video interviews of English instructor candidates for the Masdar Institute, Abu Dhabi. Senior lecturer Crocker served on the American Association of Teachers of German executive board, in addition to her collaboration with the Goethe-Institut in Boston. Senior lecturer Morgenstern continued his work as a Harvard University Extension School instructor, in intensive elementary Spanish. Senior lecturer Sabine Levet organized intercultural online discussion forums between MIT French III students and other students of French through videoconferencing. Levet also provided one-on-one online pedagogical and technological support to colleagues from other schools and universities who are adopting culture into their own context. Director Nagaya served as vice president and board member for the Japanese Teachers’ Association of the Northeast Region of the US. Lecturer Jin Zhang was the lead instructor at the Chinese School, a summer language program at Middlebury College.

Research and Publications

In AY2011, FL&L research and publications included books, CD-ROMS, book chapters, and journal papers.
Professor Elizabeth Garrels was invited to contribute an article on Domingo Faustino Sarmiento, the seventh president of Argentina, for the annual monographic issue of *Monteagudo*, a publication of Facultad de Letras of the Universidad de Murcia. The 2011 issue will be dedicated entirely to President Sarmiento to commemorate the 200th anniversary of his birth.

Professor Miyagawa published “Optionality” in *The Oxford Handbook of Linguistic Minimalism*, Oxford University Press, and “Genitive Subjects in Altaic and Specification of Phase” in *Lingua*, an international journal of general linguistics. He also completed the manuscript *Case, Argument Structure, and Word Order*, to be published by the Leading Linguists Series from Routledge in 2012.


Professor Wang published “Youth Culture, Music, and Cell Phone Branding in China” in *Global Media and Communication*. In addition, the Japanese and Chinese editions of her book *Brand New China: Advertising, Media, and Commercial Culture* are expected to be published in spring 2011.

Professor Resnick completed and edited eight new oral histories of MIT alumni. The interviews are available in the MIT archives.

Professor Perreau’s book *Penser l’adoption* was published by Presses universitaires de France in January 2011.

Senior lecturer Levet continued to write and edit multiple sections of page content of the online *Cultura* community website. She also continued to design tutorial videos for online technological support for users of the *Cultura* Exchange Tool, which facilitates cross-cultural exchanges for language instructors outside MIT who have limited technological support.

Wayne Marshall, a Mellon postdoctoral fellow, was involved in several works, in particular the article “Los circuitos socio-sónicos del reggaetón” in *Transcultural Music Review*.

**Conferences and Presentations**

FL&L members were invited to numerous national and international conferences during AY2011.

Professor Miyagawa gave five invited talks on linguistics: “Agreements that Occur Mainly in the Main Clause” at the Conference on the Main Clause Phenomena, Ghent University, September 2010; Blocking and Modularity: Causatives in Japanese and
English, a workshop on morphology at the University of Arizona, October 2010; “OpenCourseWare [OCW]: MIT and Beyond” at the Asia OCW Regional Consortium Meeting, Taipei, November 2010; “Agreement and the Uniformity Principle” at Utrecht University, March 2011; and “Minimal Parametric Variation” at the Colloquium on Generative Grammar, University of Seville, April 2011.

Professor Turk presented “The Most Puzzling of Mozart’s Operas: The Magic Flute” in a public lecture at the Community Music Center of Boston, in April 2011. He also did a radio interview for Radio France Internationale, conducted by Pascal Paradou, on summer theatre festival dynamics, which aired in July 2010.

Professor Wang gave the following talks and presentations: “Web 2.0 Thinking and NGO2.0 Case Studies, Listen 2.0” at the University of Science and Technology of China, July 2010; “NGO2.0: When Social Action Meets Social Media” at the CMS Colloquium, MIT, October 2010; “NGO2.0 and Social Innovation” at the China Entrepreneur Forum: Harnessing Innovation for Sustainable Prosperity, University of Michigan, November 2010; “NGO2.0 and Social Innovation” at New York University, February 2011; “Civic Media and Technology” at Sun Yat-sen University, June 2011; and “Listen 2.0, NGOs and Digital Marketing” in Guangxi, China, June 2011.

Professor Condry was invited to present the following papers during fall 2010, all in Japan: “New Directions in Japanese Hip-Hop” at the 22nd meeting of the Japan Association for the Study of Popular Music, Tokyo University of the Arts; “Dark Energy and the Soul of Anime” at the Trans-Asia Cultural Studies seminar series, Waseda University; and “Fieldwork and Ethnography in Japanese Popular Culture” at Kyoto Seika University. During spring 2011, he presented the following papers: “Post 3/11 Japan and the Radical Recontextualization of Value” at the Music–Race–Empire Conference, University of Wisconsin; “Music and Dance as Social Media: End-around Strategies for Change” at the Dance Technology and Circulations of the Social symposium, MIT; and “New Directions in Japanese Music: From Transmedia Hip-Hop to Virtual Idols, A Primer on the Post-package Era of Media” at the Asian Popular Music Conference, Princeton University.

Professor Resnick traveled to Lisbon and Oporto in July 2010 to present the following three talks: “No One Expects the Spanish Inquisition,” “Portugal 1973/Spain 1976,” and “From Repression to Democracy: Post-Franco Spain.” In the Boston area, she presented “Creations of the ABCFM: The International Institute in Spain and Its Role in the Education of Spanish Women” at the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions Bicentennial, September 2010. At MIT, she moderated Path of Professorship, an Office of the Dean for Graduate Education workshop, and the Graduate Women’s Association panel “Balancing Work and Family.” Finally, Professor Resnick was keynote speaker at the MIT 150th symposium on women and technology, “A Different Vision: From Ellen Swallow Richards to the Future.”

Professor Teng was invited to speak at several universities and conferences. Her talks included “From Chocolate Angel to Chocolate City: Chinese-Black Interracialism in Contemporary China,” Critical Mixed Race Goes Global panel at the Critical Mixed
Race Studies Inaugural Conference, Chicago; “Regional Studies East Asia,” roundtable panelist, at Harvard University; “Forgetting the Nation? Adopting the Nation?” at the Chinese-Western National Identity and New Qing History Conference, Institute for Qing History, Renmin University; “Investigating ‘Mixed Race’ in 1930s Shanghai: American Sociologists Put China on the Miscengeneration Map” at Johns Hopkins University; “January 4, 1847: Launching the Chinese Overseas Student Movement, A Moment of Significance for Modern China” at Harvard University; “Asian Americans as the Model Minority: Fact or Fiction?” at the Breaking the Glass Ceiling: How to Be an Asian Leader in the Corporate World Conference, MIT; and “Aliens Ineligible for Naturalization: The Struggle for Asian American Citizenship, 1878–1952,” Minorities in the US panel at the MIT 150th Human Diversity and Social Order Forum Series.

Professor Perreau presented “Exclusive Rights: Adoption and Gendered Biographical Patterns in Contemporary France” at the Center for European Studies, Harvard University, sponsored by three study groups—Exclusion and Inclusion in an Extended Europe; Gender, Politics and Society; and French Politics, Culture, and Society—February 2011; “Affirmative Action and National Identity: The View from France,” CB/BS, at MIT, March 2011; “Gray Fantasies of French National Identity: The Case of Marriage,” at the WGS Forum on National Identity and Gender, April 2011; “Le biologique et le sexuel,” research seminar on sexuality studies, chaired by Emmanuelle Huisman-Perrin, at Sciences Po, June 2011; and “Michel Foucault or the Rarity of Power” at Forms of Domination and Emancipation, the annual conference of the Center for Social and Political Thought, University of Sussex, June 2011.

Senior lecturer Dunphy gave the following talks: “Craft of Effective Speaking” and “Strategic Interactions” to the Supply Chain Management Program, MIT, August 2010; “Strategic Art of Presenting Research” at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute, September 2010; “Teaching Generation 1.5 Writers,” invited keynote address at Wheaton College, MA, October 2010; “The Art of Poster Sessions,” to the Supply Chain Management Program, MIT, November 2010; “Boundaries and Flexibility: Managing Expectations with Multilingual Writers,” keynote address at Amherst College, May 2011; “Relationship Building in ITA [International Teaching Assistants] Programs” and “Making it Happen: Granting Academic Credit for English as a Second Language,” academic panel at the annual convention of Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL), New Orleans, March 2011; “Generation 1.5: Writing Instruction, Respect and Reality,” keynote speech at the Ivy Plus Conference, Wheaton College, MA, October 2010; and “Strategic Art of Presenting Research: A Strong Beginning,” a seminar for graduate students and research scientists at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute, September 2010.

Senior lecturer Levet participated in the following talks and presentations: Cultura Exhibition and “Exploring Paris Velib and Tramway to Teach Language and Culture,” an electronic poster presentation, at the 2010 American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) Conference (Languages: Gateway to Global Communities), Boston, November 2010; “Ensuring Successful Implementation of Telecollaboration: Issues of Design, Management, Maintenance, and Evaluation” at the Computer Assisted Language Instruction Consortium annual conference (Mediated Learning Communities),

Senior lecturer Crocker presented “Cultural Insights: Engaging Students Beyond the Foreign Language Classroom” as part of a panel at the 13th Annual Colloquium on International Engineering Education: Moving Forward, University of Rhode Island, November 2010.


Margarita Groeger, lecturer and the Director of Spanish Language Studies, was a participant in the round table discussion “The Role of Citizenship for Hispanics in U.S. Higher Education” for the MIT 150th Human Diversity and Social Order Forum Series, February 2011. In addition, she presented “Latinas in STEM [Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics],” a talk sponsored by the Society of Latino Engineers and Scientists and by Mujeres Latinas, September 2010.

Lecturer Patricia Brennecke will be giving teacher-training workshops in Oaxaca, Mexico, in July 2011.

Lecturer Tong Chen presented “Building an Effective Testing System to Empower Teaching” at the ACTFL annual conference, Boston, November 2010.

Lecturer A. C. Kemp presented “Building Plagiarism into Your Writing Course” at the TESOL annual convention, New Orleans, March 2011.

Lecturer Peter Weise presented “Germany: More than Just Bratwurst and Beer,” sponsored by the Center for International Studies and the MIT-Germany Program, at MIT, April 2011.


Lecturer Min-Min Liang presented “Cultural Elements and Language Learning for Heritage Learners” at the ACTFL annual conference, Boston, November 2010.
Lecturer Cathy Culot presented “Made in Belgium: An Online Multimedia Archive as a Gateway to the Heart of Europe” at the Ninth Annual Hawaii International Conference on Arts and Humanities, Honolulu, January 2011, and “Made in Belgium: Teaching Culture through the Arts” at the International Journal of Arts and Sciences Conference, Aix-en-Provence, June 2011.

Mellon postdoctoral fellow Wayne Marshall presented the following talks: “Uneasy Peers and Unstable Platforms: The Making and Breaking of World Music 2.0” at the annual meeting of the Society for Ethnomusicology, Los Angeles, November 2010; “Social Media and Electro Diasporas: (Post-)Regional Dance Musics and their Transformation through the Internet” at Cornell University, March 2011; and “The Unstable Platforms and Uneasy Peers of Brave New World Music” at the Berkman Center Luncheon Series, Harvard University, December 2010. He also presented at the “Clowning Around with SoundCloud” colloquium, MIT Cool Japan, MIT, February 2011; professor Jeffrey Juris’s Global Markets and Local Culture class, Northeastern University, February 2011; professor Marcyliena Morgan’s Hip hop Scholarship class, Harvard University, February 2011; and the Hip-Hop’s Irrepressible Refashionability, Race, Culture and Inequality Workshop at Harvard University, December 2010.

Mellon postdoctoral fellow Chuong-Dai Vo presented “Theorizing Dissonance and Marginalized Discourses in the Vietnamese Diaspora” at the Critical Ethnic Studies Conference, University of California, Riverside, March 2011; “Journeys Without Returns: Pipo Nguyen-duy’s Photography of Fragmentation” at the Re-SEAing Southeast Asian American Studies; Memories and Visions Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow Conference, San Francisco State University, March 2011; and “Pipo Nguyen-duy’s Photography and the Neoliberal Consumption of War” to the Association for Asian American Studies, New Orleans, May 2011.

**MIT Service and Enrollments**

Members of the FL&L faculty contribute to MIT through service on a number of Institute-wide committees: Global Council; McMillan-Stewart Committee; Mellon Committee; Gender Equity Committee for SHASS; Faculty Policy Committee; SHASS Educational Advisory Committee; Council of Educational Technology; OCW Advisory Committee (Chair); OCW Revenue Enhancement Group; MIT Online Study Committee; MIT Community Giving; WGS Steering Committee; CMS Graduate Admissions Committee; Burchard Selection Committee; Committee on Graduate Programs; MIT Universidad Politécnica de Valencia Exchange; Race and Diversity Steering Committee; Greater China Fund for Innovation; Office of Minority Education Search Committee; Commencement Committee; Mentor Advocate Partnership; Committee on Discipline; MIT International Science and Technology Initiatives— the MIT-China Educational Technology Initiative; Contemporary Chinese Writers Website Project; MIT Anime Club; Faculty/Administration Committee; MIT–Greater China Strategy Group; New Media Action Lab; MIT-France; MIT-Japan; MIT-Germany; MIT-Brazil; MIT ACCESS; Academic Computing Strategic Planning Committee; Educational Architecture Group; Foreign Fellowship Committee; Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences Overview Committee Working Group; Global Education Opportunities at MIT Committee; and Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program and Crosstalk forums.
Professor Resnick continued to serve as director of the Association of MIT Alumnae Oral History Project, as well as serve on the Burchard Scholars Committee, the Committee on Academic Performance, and as project advisor for the Graduate Women’s Association. Director Groeger continued to serve as a student group advisor and activities coorganizer for the MIT counseling and support services program Mujeres Latinas.

FL&L has maintained its commitment to making full-time faculty appointments and attracting qualified faculty candidates from minority groups. In order to achieve these goals, FL&L has targeted historically black and Hispanic colleges and universities and has advertised in journals and on association websites focusing on the minority community. There are currently several members of the full-time faculty and the full- and part-time teaching staff who are minorities or women.

There were two majors in FL&L in AY2011, both in French. The total number of students who proposed or completed a minor was 66 (a 10% increase from last year), broken down as follows: Spanish (14), Japanese (14), French (14), Chinese (13), and German (11). There were 506 proposed or completed concentrators, broken down as follows: Spanish (131), Chinese (113), French (108), German (66), Japanese (62), other languages (18), Studies in International Literature and Culture (SILC) (5), Portuguese (2), English Language Studies (1), and Theory of Language (0). Spanish continued to have the largest Week 5 enrollments, at 525; Chinese, 477; French, 331; Japanese, 323; English Language Studies, 248; German, 220; Portuguese, 72; and Italian, 23 (offered only during IAP). Enrollments in SILC courses (cross-cultural language and culture subjects taught in English, some included above) were 243. The total 21F Week 5 enrollment for AY2011, including graduate subjects and IAP, was 2,315.

Shigeru Miyagawa  
Section Head  
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