

Foreign Languages and Literatures

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 education. During academic year 2011–2012, 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

Professor of French and film studies Edward Turk retired from MIT after 34 years of service. Turk taught French and European literature, as well as international film and media; however, his primary focus was contemporary French literature, cinema, theater, and culture. A prolific writer, Professor Turk authored five books (*Baroque Fiction-Making: A Study of Gomberville's 'Polexandre'*; *Child of Paradise: Marcel Carné and the Golden Age of French Cinema*; *Hollywood Diva: A Biography of Jeanette MacDonald*; *Marcel Carné et l'âge d'or du cinéma français*; and *French Theatre Today: The View from New York, Paris, and Avignon*) in addition to numerous journal articles. Coinciding with the celebration of his career on October 21, 2012, Edward offered a brief presentation of his new book, *French Theatre Today*, and a short autobiographical talk titled “Valedictory Thoughts of an MIT Humanist.”

Lecturer of English language studies Patricia Brennecke retired from MIT after 16 years of service. She often taught the advanced workshop in writing for science and engineering, as well as the advanced speaking and critical listening skills course.

Professor Shigeru Miyagawa was awarded the President's Award for OpenCourseWare (OCW) Excellence, given by the board of directors of the Global OCW Consortium. Associate professor Emma Teng received a School of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences (SHASS) Teaching Innovation Fund Grant. S.C. Fang professor of Chinese literature and culture Jing Wang received a grant from the Ford Foundation China for the NGO [Non-governmental Organization] 2.0 project. Senior lecturer Jane Dunphy and lecturer Nilma Dominique received the James A. and Ruth Levitan Award for Excellence in Teaching, given by SHASS. Lecturer Min-Min Liang received an Association for Asian Studies–China and Inner Asia Council Small Grant. Lecturers Masami Ikeda-Lamm, Yoshimi Nagaya, and Lissette Soto received the Gilberte Furstenberg and Douglas Morgenstern Fund Award for innovative teaching.

FL&L hosted visiting professor Carlos Ramos (Wellesley College) during the fall semester. Tzveta Sofronieva joined FL&L during the spring semester as the Max Kade Writer in Residence.

FL&L hosted several events and talks by outside guests throughout the year. Chuong-Dai Vo, Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow, organized Visions of War, a one-day symposium

on war, feminist activism, and visual culture, held on September 9, 2011. Featured speakers included Marianne Hirsch (William Peterfield Trent professor of English and comparative literature at Columbia University and Professor in the Institute for Research on Women and Gender) and author/artist Andrea Geyer. Award-winning Portuguese novelist José Luis Peixoto led a conversation with students, on November 3, 2011. Tzveta Sofronieva read short stories and poems in English and German at the Goethe-Institut Boston on March 5, 2012. Helen Drake (associate professor in French and European studies at Loughborough University) gave a talk on the 2012 French parliamentary elections titled “France, a Flawed Democracy?” on March 19, 2012.

The MIT/Harvard Cool Japan research project, under the supervision of associate professor Ian Condry, explored issues surrounding cultural action and social media. The project hosted the lecture/panel discussion “Miku, Virtual Idol, as Media Platform: Transforming Media Creativity,” featuring a keynote address by Hiroyuki Itoh (president and chief executive officer of Crypton Future Entertainment), with additional comments by Toshihiro Fukuoka (an editor at *Tokyo Kawaii Magazine* and chief executive editor at *ASCII Weekly Magazine*), Ryotaro Mihara (deputy director of Creative Industries Division, Ministry of Economy, Trade, and Industry), and Professor Condry. Professor Mimi Ito (University of California, Irvine) lectured on “otaku” (obsessive media fan) culture in her talk “Fandom Unbound: Otaku Culture in a Connected World.” In conjunction with the Japan–US Cherry Blossom Centennial, commemorating the 100th anniversary of Japan’s gift of sakura trees to the United States, Cool Japan staged a J–Horror Theater performance of “Hoichi the Earless.” The performance featured a Biwa player, a Butoh dancer, and a Saz (Baglama) player. Cool Japan presented a talk and panel discussion with legendary Wu Tang Clan rapper GZA, who spoke about his inspiration by the Japanese and Hong Kong films of his youth and about the current state of hip hop. Finally, Cool Japan hosted artist/activist/educator Mark Read (adjunct professor of media studies at New York University) for his talk “The Illuminator Project: Developing Best Practices for Public Projection Interventions.”

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. This program was led by senior lecturer Sabine Levet, and gave 11 undergraduate students a two-week experience in Paris focusing on French arts, letters, and history during MIT’s Independent Activities Period (IAP). Additionally, FL&L offered 21F.782 Spanish II (Study Abroad) for the sixth time. Fifteen students travelled to Madrid for an immersive language learning experience. Temporary lecturer in Spanish Robert Max Ehram taught the course and led students through many cultural experiences during the month-long IAP course.

FL&L again offered Very Fast Track (VFT) in Japanese, which doubles class time and triples the amount of material covered, in spring 2012 (taught by temporary lecturer Yuka Akiyama). The success of VFT-Japanese in spring 2011 led to the expansion of the program with the introduction of VFT-Chinese in spring 2012 (taught by lecturer Jin Zhang).

FL&L's Center for Bilingual/Bicultural Studies (CB/BS) hosted a series of talks at MIT. CB/BS and the Program in Women's and Gender Studies (WGS) cosponsored the "Border-Crossing, Citizenship, Family, and Gender" series. The first Intellectual Forum, on September 28, 2011, featured two short presentations with open discussion: "Gender and Citizenship in the US Supreme Court: The Historians' Brief in *Flores-Villar v. United States*," by professor Christopher Capozzola (History Section), and "Marital Expatriation, Martial Citizenship, Migration: Intersections of Race, Gender, and Class during the Chinese Exclusion Era," by Professor Teng (FL&L). The History Section cosponsored the second Intellectual Forum on October 14, 2011, which featured a talk by professor Vivek Bald (Program in Writing and Humanistic Studies [WHS]) titled "Asian Inclusion Acts: South Asian Muslims in New Orleans and Harlem, 1890–1950" and a talk by Mellon postdoctoral fellow Chuong-Dai Vo called "War and Landscape Photography: Vietnam, Afghanistan, and Iraq." CB/BS cosponsored two events: a talk by 2003 Nobel Peace Prize–winner Dr. Shirin Ebadi titled "Women's Rights in Iran and the Islamic World" on April 4, 2012, and a panel discussion featuring R. Dwayne Betts (a fellow at the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Studies), Andrew Leong (associate professor of legal education and immigration law at the University of Massachusetts, Boston), and Paul Niwa (associate professor of journalism at Emerson College) titled "Race and Extreme Violence in American Society Today" on April 19, 2012. In addition, CB/BS awarded the second annual Isabelle de Courtivron Student Writing Prize to Adrian Jimenez-Galindo (first prize) for his submission "My Life is in Technicolor" and Eric Trac (second prize) for his submission "Teardrops Don't Always Drip Down." The Isabelle De Courtivron Prize Selection Committee this year included Arundhati Banerjee (CB/BS codirector, FL&L, and Global Initiatives), AC Kemp (FL&L), Kym Ragusa (CB/BS codirector, WHS), and Chuong-Dai Vo (FL&L).

During AY2012, members of FL&L participated in many foreign language and literature–related activities outside MIT. Professor Wang was appointed director of the Institute of Civic Media and Communication at Sun Yat-sen University, in Guangzhou province, China, and was also appointed new media advisor to the Research and Development Foundation of the State Council of the People's Republic of China. In addition, she 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 Publishing Company, Taipei, Taiwan. Assistant professor of French studies Bruno Perreau was elected research associate at Jesus College, Cambridge University, in November 2011. In May 2012, Professor Perreau became a research affiliate at Harvard University; he is now a faculty member at Harvard's Minda de Gunzburg Center for European Studies. Lecturer Tong Chen was named co-chair of the organizing committee and chair of the public relations and fund raising committee for the New England Chinese Teachers Association in January 2012.

Research and Publications

FL&L research and publications in AY 2012 included books, book chapters, and journal papers.

Professor Condry had two publications: “Post-3/11 Japan and the Radical Recontextualization of Value: Music, Social Media, and End-around Strategies for Cultural Action” in *International Journal of Japanese Sociology*, October 2011; and “Love Revolution: Anime, Masculinity, and the Future” in *Recreating Japanese Men*, Sabine Fruhstuck and Anne Walthall, eds., Berkeley: University of California Press, October 2011.

Professor Elizabeth Garrels published “Sarmiento, el orientalismo y la biografía criminal: Ali Pasha de Tepelen y Juan Facundo Quiroga” in *Monteagudo, Revista de Literatura Española, Hispanoamericana, Teoría de la Literatura y Literatura Comparada*, Universidad de Murcia, November 2011.

Professor Miyagawa had three publications: *Case, Argument Structure, and Word Order*, Routledge Leading Linguists Series, February 2012; “Genitive Subjects in Altaic and Specification of Phase” in *Lingua*, special volume on nominalization, Jaklin Kornfilt and John Whitman, eds., 2011; and “Optionality” in *The Oxford Handbook of Linguistic Minimalism*, ed. Cedrix Boeckx, Oxford University Press, 2011.

Professor Perreau published *Penser l'adoption: La gouvernance pastorale du genre (Rethinking Adoption: The Pastoral Governance of Gender)*, Presses Universitaires de France, 2012.

Professor Teng published “On Not Looking Chinese: Does ‘Mixed Race’ De-center the Han from Chineseness?” in *Critical Han Studies: The History, Representation, and Identity of China’s Majority*, Thomas Mullaney et al., eds, University of California Press, 2012.

Professor Wang had four publications: the Japanese edition of *Brand New China*, Iwanami: Tokyo 2011; “Beyond the Beijing Olympics and the Shanghai Expo” in *Brand New China*, Japanese edition, Iwanami: Tokyo, 2011; “Zhongguo qingnian yinyue yingxiao de wenhuaxue jixi” (“A Cultural Analysis of Music Marketing for Chinese Youth: Ethnographical Perspectives”) in *International Journalism* (Guojin xinwen jie), 2011; and “Youth Culture, Music, and Cell Phone Branding in China” in *Popular Music*, ed., Chris Rojek, in the Benchmarks in Culture and Society Series, Sage Publications, 2011.

Conferences and Presentations

FL&L members were invited to numerous national and international conferences during AY2012.

Professor Condry presented six talks and papers: “Post-3/11 Japan and Contemporary Media” at the Association for Asian Studies, Northeast Asia Council Distinguished Speaker Series, Washington University, St. Louis, and the University of Missouri, July 2011; “Miku: Virtual Idol as Social Media Platform” at the Workshops and Lectures in Performance and Cultural Studies, Duke University, November 2011; “Teaching Japanese Popular Culture” at a two-day seminar for public school teachers in New

York City, organized by the Japan Society of New York, October 2011; “Miku and the Emergence of Fan-generated Transmedia” at Experiencing the Media Mix: Anime, Manga, and Video Games conference at Concordia University, Montreal, February 2012; “Anime as Social Media” at the American University of Beirut, March 2012; and “Super PACs to Miku: The Politics of Media in the 21st Century” at the Harvard University Program on US-Japan Relations, April 2012.

Professor Garrels gave a presentation at the Harvard Graduate School of Education to a group of 16 professors from the University of Costa Rica as part of a five-day seminar sponsored by Academic and Professional Programs for the Americas, October 20, 2011. She spoke about her direct experience with interdisciplinary teaching at MIT.

Professor Miyagawa was invited to deliver nine talks: “Human Language: Uniformity and Variation” at Mie University and at Shizuoka University, July 2011; “Minimal Variation” at the Workshop on Functional Categories and Parametric Variation, Boğaziçi University, October 2011; “Visualizing Cultures: Open Culture on the Web—Benefits and Risks” as the keynote address at the Second International Conference on Culture and Computing, Kyoto University, October 2011; “OpenCourseWare: Benefits to Society” at the Third Asian Regional OCW Consortium meeting in Tokyo, November 2011; “Nominalization, Argument Structure, and Myers’s Generalization” at the Conference on Categorization and Category Change in Morphology, Center for Advanced Study of Theoretical Linguistics, Tromsø, December 2011; “OCW and Open Education” at Kyushu University and at Hokkaido University, January 2012; “Agreements that Occur Mainly in the Main Clause” at Kyushu University and at Osaka University, January 2012; “Negative Dependencies in Japanese” at the Workshop on Altaic Formal Linguistics, University of Stuttgart, May 2012; and the keynote speech, “The Architecture of Human Language,” at the Conference on Language and Evolution, Kaohsiung National Normal University, May 2012.

Professor Perreau delivered two talks: “The Nation and ‘Its Children’: Why Gay Adoption Challenges Political Legitimacy in Contemporary France” at the 15th Annual Conference of the Social Science History Association, in the session Reproducing Citizenship, Nations, and States: Biopolitics of Gender, Race, Generations, and Species, November 2011; and “Technologically Assisted Reproduction Against Adoption: The New Face of Family Policies in France” at the Fourth International Conference of the Alliance for the Study of Adoption and Culture—Mapping Adoption: Histories, Geographies, Literatures, and Politics, March 2012.

Professor Teng delivered two talks: “Early Asian Immigrants and Imaginings of the Yellow Peril” at Public Enemies: Imagining the Social Threat to American Communities and the Nation, 17th Century to the Present, at the American Studies Summer Institute, John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum, July 2011; and “Marital Expatriation, Martial Citizenship, Migration: Intersections of Race, Gender, and Class during the Chinese Exclusion Era” at the CB/BS and WGS Intellectual Forum, MIT, September 2011.

Professor Wang organized two conferences in China: co-organizer, Web 2.0 Workshop, with An Dian Cultural Association, Guangxi Province, July 2011; and

organizer, Foundation 2.0 Workshop, Beijing, December 2011. He delivered five talks: “Introduction to Social Media” and “Listen 2.0 and NGO Communication Strategy” at the Andian Cultural Association, Guangxi, July 2011; the keynote speech “Civic Media and Technology” at Sun Yat-sen University, Guangzhou, July 2011; the keynote speech “Prosumers as Trendsetters: Change Agents and the Social Web” at the Trends on the Move conference, University of Heidelberg, October 2011; “NGO2.0 and Corporate Social Responsibility” at The Business of a Better World, Beijing, December 2011; and “Foundation 2.0: Frames and Case Studies” at the Foundation 2.0 Workshop, Beijing, December 2011.

Senior lecturer Dunphy gave four talks: “Strategic Conference Presentations” at a seminar for graduate students and research scientists at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute, October 2011; “Realistic Expectations of Writers in English as a Global Language” at a seminar for the Writing across the Curriculum group, WHS, MIT, October 2011; “Academic Writing in the 21st Century: Looking Forward” at a national symposium of scholars in composition and writing across the curriculum, MIT, October 2011; the keynote speech “Communication Challenges for Global Engineers” at the Second International Conference on Advances in Mechanical Manufacturing and Building Sciences, Vellore Institute of Technology, India, January 2012. She also presented three papers in March 2012: “ESL [English as a Second Language] for Credit: What Can Program Administrators Do?” at the Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages International Convention, Philadelphia; “Enter Write Here: Online Writing Placement as Portal to Academia” at the Conference on College Composition and Communication, St. Louis; and “Cultural Patterns and Variability: Communicating Effectively in the Global Workplace” at the Society of Women Engineers (Region F) Conference, Cambridge, MA.

Senior lecturer Sabine Levet presented papers at three conferences: “Developing Students’ Intercultural Skills in the Language Class” at the South Central Association for Language Learning Conference—Success Stories in the 21st Century Foreign Language Class: Transforming Teaching and Learning with Technology, Boulder, April 2012; “The Role of the Teacher in an Online Intercultural Exchange” at the Sixth University of California Language Consortium Conference on Theoretical and Pedagogical Perspectives, San Diego, April 2012; and “Cultura” during the Teach Europe seminar at Yale University, May 2012.

Lecturer Tong Chen was invited by both the Monterey Institute of International Studies and Taiwan National Hsinchu University of Education to give his talk “Cognition in Chinese Language and Culture: Grammar in Context for Beginning Students” to graduate students majoring in Teaching Chinese as a Foreign Language, via illumination technology, October 2011. He presented “Patterns and Pragmatic Behavior in the Interaction between Native Speakers and Non-native Speakers” at the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages/Chinese Language Teachers Association (ACTFL/CLTA) annual conference, Denver, October 2011, and “Improving Spoken Chinese Online: Application of Internet Technology in Chinese Instruction” at the 10th International Conference on Teaching Chinese as a Foreign Language, Taipei, December 2011. He presented “An Online Social Community: To Experience Chinese Language

and Culture in a New Way” at the Seventh International Conference and Workshop on Technology and Chinese Language Teaching, at the University of Hawaii at Manoa, May 2012.

Lecturer Cathy Culot presented “Striking a Balance during Grammar Instruction: Moving from Practice to Communication” in a webinar presented by Drs. Theresa Antes and Véronique Anover, Heinle–Cengage Learning, February 2012.

Lecturer Masami Ikeda-Lamm participated in the Association of Japanese Literacy Studies Conference at Tufts University, November 2011.

Lecturer Dagmar Jaeger participated in two ACTFL webinars: “Moving Students from Novice to Intermediate” and “Moving Students from Intermediate to Advanced,” March and April 2012; the webinars were part of the series Learner Progress on the ACTFL proficiency continuum.

Lecturer Lissette Soto presented “Using Public Service Projects to Promote Genuine Language Production” at the Massachusetts Foreign Language Association Fall 2011 Conference, in Sturbridge, MA, October 2011. The theme of the conference was “Languages Connect the World.”

Lecturer Ana Teixeira delivered “The Missing Protagonists: Revisiting the Role of Cubans and Soviets in Angola’s Post-independence Literature” at the African Studies Association National Conference in Washington, DC, November 2011.

Lecturer Peter Weise presented “Teaching Literature: Themes, Texts, Tasks” as part of the session Best Practices: Teaching German Literature at the Undergraduate Level at the 43rd Annual Northeast Modern Language Association Convention in Rochester, NY, March 2012.

Lecturer Jin Zhang presented “Pronunciation: Motivation to Self-correct and Identification of Error Patterns” at the Chinese Language Teachers Association annual meeting, as part of the panel Action Research on Pronunciation: Tonal Acquisition, Learning Strategies, Error Correction, November 2011. The same day, she held an ACTFL poster session, “Designing Content-rich Web-based Collaborative Learning Tasks for Advanced-level Students.” In December 2011, she presented “Multimedia and Advanced-level CFL [Chinese as a Foreign Language]: Collaboration, Communication, and Culture,” a poster session for the 10th World Chinese Language Association Conference, Taipei. In May 2012, Lecturer Zhang presented two papers for the Seventh International Conference and Workshops on Technology and Chinese Language Teaching in the 21st Century, Honolulu: “Micro-Blogging and Developing Language and Culture Competences for Advanced-level Chinese Learners” and “Creating Online Learning Materials with an Advanced Chinese Annotator.”

Temporary lecturer Yuka Akiyama presented “CALLing on the Issues Surrounding CALL-based Language Exchange” at the 1st Northwest Conference on Japanese Pedagogy, at the University of Washington, April 2012.

Temporary lecturer Leanna Bridge Rezvani presented “Didactic Intent in Marguerite de Navarre and André Thevet’s Interpretations of Marguerite de Roberval’s Plight” at the 16th Century Studies Conference, in Fort Worth, October 2011. She presented “Pedagogy, Polyphony, and the Querelle des Femmes: Marguerite’s Tales and Madame de Lafayette’s Internal Narratives” at the Renaissance Society of America Conference, in Washington, DC, March 2012.

Temporary lecturer Roberto Rey Agudo presented “Using Web-based Voice-recording in Language Instruction” at the Massachusetts Foreign Language Association Fall 2011 Conference, in Sturbridge, MA, October 2011, and “Cultural Competence and Authentic Media” at the Center for International Business Education and Research Business Language Conference, in Chapel Hill, NC, March 2012.

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; Comparative Media Studies Graduate Admissions Committee; Burchard Selection Committee; Committee on Graduate Programs; MIT–Universitat Politècnica de València 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–China Educational Technology Initiative; Contemporary Chinese Writers Website Project; MIT Anime Club; Faculty/Administration Committee; MIT–Greater China Strategy Working 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; Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program; and the Crosstalk seminar series.

FL&L has maintained its commitment to making full-time faculty appointments and to attracting qualified 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 FL&L full-time faculty and full- and part-time teaching staff who are minorities or women.

FL&L is currently administering one major, in French. The total number of students who proposed or completed a minor is 53, broken out as follows: French (12), Japanese (12), Spanish (12), Chinese (9), and German (8). There were 496 proposed or completed concentrators, broken out as follows: Spanish (119), Chinese (104), French (104), Japanese (81), German (58), other languages (18), Portuguese (5), English Language Studies (3), Studies in International Literature and Culture (SILC) (3), and Theory of Language (1). Chinese now has the largest 21F Week 5 enrollments, at 486; Spanish, 440; Japanese, 336; French, 319; English Language Studies, 238; German, 228; Portuguese, 89; Italian, 25 (offered only during IAP). Enrollments in SILC courses (cross-cultural language and culture subjects taught in English, some included above) were 312. Total 21F Week 5 enrollment for AY2012, including graduate subjects and those given during IAP, was 2,273.

Shigeru Miyagawa

Section Head

Professor of Linguistics

Kochi Prefecture–John Manjiro Professor of Japanese Language and Culture