

# *FR* FABELLA ROMANICA

FRENCH, ITALIAN, PORTUGUESE, AND SPANISH AT NOTRE DAME  
DEPARTMENT OF ROMANCE LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES

## Grants for International Language Study Make Immediate Impact

If experience has led you to believe a “productive meeting” is an oxymoron, then you should know the story of Notre Dame’s Summer Language Abroad (SLA) Grant Program, as its whirlwind success may soften the stance of even the most ardent office cynic.

First you’ll need a little background. The SLA program offers grants to both undergraduates and graduate students in the College of Arts and Letters who are interested in undertaking intensive study of a foreign language abroad over the summer (other resources are in place to support research projects).

Faculty representing seven departments and offices team with Lance Askildson, director of the Center for the Study of Languages and Cultures (CSLC), to review applications for the grants. A five-tiered rating system guides the faculty evaluations, and the committee also considers students’ financial need when making awards.

As for funding, the Nanovic Institute for European Studies, the Department of Romance Languages and Literatures, and seven other campus entities contributed to the SLA program in 2009, nearly doubling the \$95,000 Arts and Letters had already committed to it.



*Lance Askildson in his CSLC office*

Given these details, it wouldn’t have seemed unreasonable to allot a couple semesters, maybe more, for organizing the initiative and selecting the first group of grant winners.

Askildson and his colleagues, however, pulled it off earlier this year in about two months.

And it turns out the ambitiousness of the program, which is run by the CSLC, was due not only to institutional desire and administrative dexterity but also to the efforts of the applicants themselves.

“They had these brilliant statements of purpose,” says Askildson, who didn’t seek matching funds until after applications started pouring in and the number of deserving students kept growing. “We asked them to justify both in an academic sense and just in an intellectual curiosity sense: ‘Why would this be valuable to you? What’s it going to do for you?’ ... And I was absolutely blown away, as were the other committee members, by the eloquence of these statements.”

All told, approximately \$186,000 was awarded to 55 students, including 18 working in the Romance languages, for study abroad during summer 2009. Each was required to complete an oral proficiency interview both before leaving and after returning to campus this fall.

It’s also worth noting that other grants are available for summer language study abroad. Several of the units that are partnering with the College to fund the SLA program still offer their own grants to particularly outstanding students. For instance, the faculty review committee was so impressed by senior Bronwen Elizabeth Mitchell’s application that Askildson thought she would be a strong candidate for the Nanovic

## AAUW Funds Moreno’s Study of Puerto Rican Authors



The American Association of University Women (AAUW) recently awarded Marisel Moreno, assistant professor of U.S. Latino literature, a prestigious American Fellowship in support of a project she hopes will be a model for exploring links between Latin American and U.S. Latino/a cultures.

“This is the first book-length study to examine the literature of Puerto Rican female authors on the island and the U.S. mainland,” Moreno says. Thanks to the AAUW fellowship, she is spending the 2009–10 academic year on leave pursuing research for the book.

*continued on page 2*

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## NOTABLE CONFERENCES, 2008-09



### “New Paradigms for Revolutionary Studies: French-American Colloquium”

Oct. 6–7, 2008

Scholars from France, the United States, the United Kingdom, Canada, and Japan gathered at Notre Dame for “New Paradigms for Revolutionary Studies,” an interdisciplinary research conference on the French Revolution. Part of an ongoing collaboration among faculty from the Université de Provence, the Université de Toulouse, Indiana University South Bend (IUSB), and Notre Dame, the event was organized by Julia Douthwaite, professor of French, and Lesley Walker (IUSB) and included exhibits in Notre Dame’s Hesburgh Library and Snite Museum of Art. It was the second such conference to result from the partnership between the French and American universities, the first having been held in Provence in October 2007.



### “Dante and the Italian Duecento”

April 6, 2009

“Dante and the Italian Duecento,” sponsored by the department as well as the University’s Medieval Institute and Devers Program in Dante Studies, focused on the earliest period of Italian literary history, particularly the lyric poetry of the 13th century (Duecento) that prepared the way for Dante. The colloquium examined not only the Duecento poets but also the extent to which Dante’s interpretation of their work—he chronicled its history and commented on his predecessors in his *Divine Comedy*—influenced the development and realization of his own writing.



### “Why Italy?”

April 20–21, 2009

The follow-up to a similar event held at the University of Rome “La Sapienza” in June 2007, “Why Italy?” was an interdisciplinary symposium that brought together scholars from that institution and Notre Dame to discuss research related to Italian history and culture. Notre Dame’s Devers Program in Dante Studies, Nanovic Institute for European Studies, Ph.D. in Literature Program, and College of Arts and Letters joined with the department in hosting the conference. In addition to furthering relationships between faculty at the two schools, the symposium highlighted Italian studies scholarship at Notre Dame in fields ranging from anthropology to architecture.

*Moreno, continued from page 1*

And when it comes to literature, she believes Puerto Ricans living on the island have more in common with those on the mainland than one might expect.

“The comparative approach of my project challenges the tendency to view insular and diaspora productions as two distinct literary bodies based on linguistic, stylistic, and thematic differences,” Moreno says. “While it is important to acknowledge these distinctions, it is also crucial to recognize the points of contact that exist between them, such as the presence of certain cultural myths that have also prevailed in the diaspora.”

Her research considers the work of key writers, including Judith Ortiz Cofer, Rosario Ferré, Nicholasa Mohr, Magali García Ramis,

Esmeralda Santiago, and Ana Lydia Vega. Each of them, Moreno says, takes on the idea of “la gran familia puertorriqueña” (the great Puerto Rican family), which she describes as a foundational myth that has long informed cultural and political discourse on the island and off.

“My analysis shows that their narratives challenge the central tenets of racial/social harmony, an idealized past, and patriarchal authority that sustain the myth of la gran familia,” says Moreno, whose book is tentatively titled *Ties That Bind: The Literature of Puerto Rican Women Authors on the Island and the Mainland*.

*Grants, continued from page 1*

Institute’s Pessoa Grant for Advanced Language in Portuguese. The institute did indeed award it to her and, in the process, helped broaden the reach of the SLA program by essentially freeing it up to support another student.

That idea of maximizing the impact of the awards led to an important departure from the previous Arts and Letters summer language grant system—which predated the creation of the CSLC and was significantly smaller in its scope—that benefits students of the Romance languages. Under the old guidelines, Mitchell could not have applied to study Portuguese because it’s taught at Notre Dame. However, Arts and Letters Dean John McGreevy believed there should be no restrictions placed on the languages eligible to be funded.

“We wanted this to be about what Arts and Letters students need,” Askildson says, “what they’ve identified as priorities, and not what we think they should learn in terms of less commonly taught languages.”

He emphasizes that undergraduate applicants need not be language or even liberal arts majors; the lone requirements are that they have at least a minor in the College and have studied the chosen language for a minimum of one year or achieved an equivalent level of competency. Similarly, any Arts and Letters graduate student who possesses a basic understanding of a foreign language is eligible to apply.

Hannah Zdansky, a student in Notre Dame’s interdisciplinary Ph.D. in Literature Program working in English, French, Latin, and Irish, received an SLA grant to attend a program at Institut d’Études Françaises d’Avignon administered by Bryn Mawr College.

“Being able to study in Avignon, France, this summer was one of the most rewarding and formative experiences of my graduate career thus far,” Zdansky says. “In fact, this summer was the first occasion that I was able to spend time abroad in France, and the linguistic immersion,

possible only within a Francophone country, helped me improve my language skills immensely.”

Visit the Center for the Study of Languages and Cultures website at <http://cslc.nd.edu/> for more information on the SLA Grant Program.

## Authors Moï and Devi Meet With ND Students

Thanks to a pair of two-day visits organized by members of the French faculty, students had the chance not only to attend lectures by Anna Moï and Ananda Devi last year but also to interact with the noted Francophone authors both inside the classroom and in more informal settings.

Moï came to campus in September 2008 at the invitation of Assistant Professor Alison Rice and spoke on “Immigration and ‘World Literature’ in Contemporary France.” In addition, she joined faculty and students for meals, sat in on three undergraduate courses and a graduate seminar, and met with students in Notre Dame’s Ph.D. in Literature Program.

Invited by Associate Professor Catherine Perry, Devi delivered a talk titled “A Question of Engagement” at the end of March. While at Notre Dame, she too shared meals with faculty and students and participated in a session of Rice’s “World Literature in French,” an undergraduate class designed for seniors. Devi’s visit was sponsored in part by the Cultural Services of the French Embassy.

## Department Welcomes Italian Literature Scholar to Faculty

You won’t find too many scholars who can refer to one of their past projects as “a wild, mad rollercoaster ride through a lysergic, hallucinogenic prose.”

That said, Assistant Professor Sabrina Ferri, who joined the department this fall, seems perfectly justified in doing so, given that she’s tackled the work of Jack Kerouac on behalf of Italian speakers around the world.

“Joking aside, it was a challenging experience both linguistically and culturally,” Ferri says of co-translating Kerouac’s *Book of Dreams* for publishing house Mondadori while she was a doctoral student at Stanford University.

Memorable though it may be, Ferri’s Kerouacian exploit constitutes something of a footnote to her primary academic pursuits. She earned



her Ph.D. in Italian literature and focuses on works produced during the 18th century, specifically the relationship of literature and the visual arts to scientific, historical, and material cultures. Her time as a graduate student included spending a year as a Geballe Dissertation Prize Fellow at the Stanford Humanities Center.

Ferri also received one of Stanford’s Centennial Teaching Assistant Awards in recognition of her classroom instruction. At Notre Dame, she has introduced the graduate-level course “Fictional Selves and Truthful Stories: Autobiography in Eighteenth-Century Italy.”

“Notre Dame has one of the best programs of Italian studies in the country and a dynamic Department of Romance Languages and Literatures with a strong tradition of academic excellence,” Ferri says. “It is an honor for me to join such a group of scholars.”



## Catching Up With Julia Douthwaite

previously received a John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Fellowship.

Recently, Douthwaite sat down with *Fabella Romanica* to talk about her experiences as an administrator, the University's initiatives in study abroad, and what's next on her agenda. An excerpt of the conversation appears here.

**FR: Is there one achievement from your tenure as assistant provost of which you're particularly proud?**

**DOUTHWAITE:** For a while, I think I erred, as many young or inexperienced administrators do, by leaning over the shoulder of colleagues who didn't need my help to provide information that was not requested. And I gradually learned that what I really should spend my energy and time doing is what I'm good at, which is talking to my faculty colleagues, reaching out to people across the wide range of the disciplines and listening to them, and trying to work with them in any way that they might see fit. So that was an ongoing focus of my work

there, and it really culminated in the strategic planning process that I launched on a directive from [Provost] Tom Burish.

**FR: How do you see Notre Dame's international study programs evolving even further over the next five to 10 years?**

**DOUTHWAITE:** [An] idea that we are aiming for ... is to create niche programming—probably short-term, like 10 days—in different fields. ... That's a new kind of programming that we haven't been promoting and supporting so far. But after doing all those listening sessions around the University in 2008–09 as part of the strategic planning, I believe it's an important way to complement our on-campus studies with really sensational immersion experiences led by our faculty. And one more thing, back to my status as a faculty member in the Romance languages department, I would like to also see, and will help to make it happen, a program in Francophone Africa for our students in French.

For the last decade, Julia Douthwaite served Notre Dame in an administrative capacity, including as assistant provost for international studies from 2003 until this past July.

Now the professor of French is back teaching and researching in the department on a full-time basis, and her return couldn't have come at a more fitting time. In July, she made something of a scholarly splash with an article revealing the existence of a French Frankenstein that predates Mary Shelley's masterpiece by 28 years.

The article, published in *European Romantic Review*, will be a chapter in Douthwaite's forthcoming book *The Frankenstein of 1790 and Other Missing Links From Revolutionary France*, for which she

## Pre-Doctoral Fellowship Takes Grad Student to UC Davis

Doctoral candidate Lupe Arenillas' final year of graduate study at Notre Dame figures to be different from all the others, mainly because she won't be on campus for most of 2009–10.

A pre-doctoral fellowship program sponsored by Notre Dame's Graduate School, College of Arts and Letters, and Kaneb Center for Teaching and Learning has made it possible for Arenillas to spend the year at the University of California, Davis, where she is being mentored by Associate Professor Michael Lazzara.

"His knowledge of theory on memory and Latin American literature as well as his interest in urban space as a tool to construct memory are fundamental to my own work," says Arenillas, who is a student in the Ph.D. in Literature Program specializing in Spanish and Portuguese.

Directed by María Rosa Olivera-Williams, associate professor of Spanish at Notre Dame, Arenillas' dissertation analyzes how museums and monuments impact the way people perceive the past

in post-dictatorial societies. She believes there are important questions to be asked about these memorials.

"How do we conceptualize the traumatic past, and how and why do these forms do it in different ways? ... How do we create a museum as a critical tool for the future and not as an ossified experience? How do we reconcile the necessity of memory with the historical amnesia that so often accompanies neoliberal regimes?"

In addition to completing her dissertation, Arenillas will co-teach a class with Lazzara as part of the fellowship. Providing a generous stipend, the award is given to four advanced Arts and Letters graduate students annually so that they can research and teach under the guidance of a mentor at another prominent university or college.

Visit [http://kaneb.nd.edu/ta/pre\\_doctoral\\_prg.html](http://kaneb.nd.edu/ta/pre_doctoral_prg.html) for more information on the pre-doctoral fellowship program.

**FR: How do you plan to use your newfound "free" time?**

**DOUTHWAITE:** I plan to use it to write my book, my third book, which is under way. I plan to use it to really enjoy my students in ways that I've felt too rushed to do, in the past six years at least, in the administration here on campus. I also have a project that I'm hatching for a University-wide celebration of Jean-Jacques Rousseau in 2012. ... The good thing that I've learned from administration is how to use your time wisely and that time is precious. And I certainly don't indulge in any complaining or self-pity. I think the life of a professor is the most wonderful career that anyone could have.

**FR: Would you describe your third book, *The Frankenstein of 1790 and Other Missing Links From Revolutionary France*?**

**DOUTHWAITE:** Each chapter focuses on a signal event of the Revolution and shows how the literature produced in the wake of spectacular events—with fantastic personalities and much drama—can be seen to constitute the missing links between old regime and modernity.

**FR: What excites you most about returning to full-time teaching and research?**

**DOUTHWAITE:** Well, I'm really excited about this book project because of the response I've had already to the article that came out this summer on the Frankenstein of 1790. And the research I did in Paris in June 2009 produced spectacular results, too. I just went to the National Archives one day with a hunch that there might be something to the preface in one of these novels that we have actually in the Rare Book Collection here at Notre Dame; it's called *Le Cimetière de la Madeleine*, *The Madeline Cemetery* in

English. ... I discovered that in the National Archives there was an entire folder dedicated to this book and to the French police's efforts to pursue and destroy all copies of it. ... This book was very popular during its time and for at least 20 years afterwards, and it's just

not known at all today. The reasons for its prohibition are fascinating. So this is one of the missing links ... that I think will really open up the way we understand how history got from point A (the old regime) to point B (the modern age).

## Ph.D. in Literature Student on the Trail of Italian Dialect Poetry

Students in the Ph.D. in Literature Program at Notre Dame approach their work from transnational, transdisciplinary, and theoretical perspectives, completing an innovative course of study that requires proficiency in multiple languages.

For Damiano Benvegnù, one of those languages is Italian, although his recent research illustrates how it could easily count for two.

"From the very beginning of Italian literature," Benvegnù says, "we can see two different movements: the first trying to create one poetic language by the production of written works shareable in the whole peninsula, and the second influenced by the amazing differences that there were—and in a way there still are—between the various Italian regions in terms of dialect."

He spent summer 2009 in Italy building on research he conducted previously that looked at 20th-century authors who combined elements of these traditions by employing both regional dialects and "standardized" Italian in their writing.

"One of my major points [before] was the idea that we cannot overlook the dialectic between the two languages," he says, "nor can we ignore that their use is related to what [author Pier Paolo] Pasolini called 'an anthropological mutation' of the entire socio-cultural environment."

Supported by grants from Notre Dame's Nanovic Institute for European Studies and Albert J. and Helen M. Ravarino Italian Studies Travel Scholarship, Benvegnù's summer research focused on Italy's new brand of dialect poetry, which he says is rooted in the "metalinguistic awareness" of those authors he studied before. He is particularly interested in the writing of Gian Mario Villalta, whom Benvegnù interviewed as part of his project.

His time abroad also benefitted the University's Hesburgh Libraries, as he used funds provided by the Department of Special Collections to acquire rare volumes of contemporary dialect poetry.

"I've found here at Notre Dame a really exciting intellectual environment," says Benvegnù, whose other primary language for the Ph.D. in literature is Spanish. "In my program as in the other departments—but inevitably I'm especially talking about the Romance languages department—I've met very good scholars who are real experts and open to every discussion."



## AROUND THE DEPARTMENT

Encarnación Juárez-Almendros, associate professor of Spanish, received a 2009–10 Summer/Short-Term Research Publication Grant from the **American Association of University Women** to work on her book project *Women and Disability in Early Modern Spanish Literature*. She also delivered the paper “Aging Women and Disability in Pre-Modern Spanish Literature” as part of the **Notre Dame Disability Studies Forum**, for which she serves as a member of the steering committee.

María Rosa Olivera-Williams, associate professor of Spanish, won the Learning Generation Initiative’s 2008 **Education Award**, one of seven honors given by the northern Indiana nonprofit organization to recognize “Las Estrellas del Año” (“The Stars of the Year”). In addition, the executive committee of the Modern Language Association’s Division on 20th-Century Latin American Literature elected Olivera-Williams to a three-year term as its representative in the **MLA Delegate Assembly**.

Notre Dame’s interdisciplinary **Gender Studies Program** named Carlos Jerez-Farrán, professor of Spanish, a senior fellow through the 2011–12 academic year. Faculty appointed senior fellows are considered by the program to be the best scholars and teachers working in gender studies at the University.

Graduate students Mark Driessen (French), Mónica García-Blizzard (Italian), Anna Maria Gutierrez (French), and Marie Sanquer (French) each received a **Nanovic Research Fellowship in the Romance Languages and Literatures** for either fall 2009 or spring 2010. The

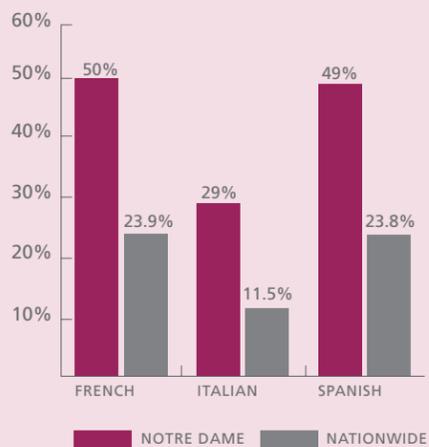
fellowships are a joint initiative of Notre Dame’s Nanovic Institute for European Studies and the department. They were created for students who are pursuing one of the department’s three master’s degrees and have interests centered on any aspect of European language, literature, or culture. Granted a release from teaching, a Nanovic Research Fellow chooses a faculty mentor and focuses all of his or her energies on other responsibilities, such as coursework, exam and thesis preparation, and research.

The department selected 2009 M.A. recipient Kayce Swigelson (French) as the winner of a **Kaneb Outstanding Graduate TA Award**. Administered by Notre Dame’s Kaneb Center for Teaching and Learning, these awards recognize graduate students who demonstrate excellence in classroom, laboratory, or other instructional capacities. Swigelson, who plans to enter a doctoral program next year, taught “Beginning French II” last spring after spending the fall semester as a Nanovic Research Fellow.

A **graduate student exchange program** initiated by the department and l’Université de Rennes 2 Haute Bretagne entered its second year in 2009–10. Sonja Stojanovic is studying at Rennes 2, western France’s most important research center and higher education community for the humanities and social sciences, while Pierre Andre, a student from that university, is in residence at Notre Dame. The exchange program welcomes applications from all advanced Notre Dame graduate students specializing in French, whether they are pursuing the M.A. in French and Francophone studies or a Ph.D. in a related area.

The French, Italian, and Spanish programs continue to exceed national averages with regard to **advanced language study**. The graph below illustrates this success, comparing the percentage of total undergraduate enrollments that are beyond a second year of study within each program to the corresponding nationwide figure.

ADVANCED LANGUAGE ENROLLMENTS



Notes: Notre Dame statistics, pulled from <http://inside.nd.edu>, are based on data from the 10th week of classes in fall 2008 and spring 2009. For comparison purposes, the department has included its “intermediate” courses, as they represent enrollments beyond a second year of study. Such enrollments are labeled “advanced” in the MLA report “Enrollments in Languages Other Than English in United States Institutions of Higher Education, Fall 2006,” which is the source for the nationwide data. The MLA figures cited exclude two-year colleges.

Among the 12 **candidates for valedictorian** of Notre Dame’s class of 2009, an impressive five completed a major or minor in one of the Romance languages and literatures. These students were: John Hennessey (French), Anne Huff (Italian), Bryan Jackson (Spanish), Howard Kelly (Italian), and Adrienne Murphy (Spanish), who offered the invocation at commencement.

## COMMENCEMENT 2009

*The Department of Romance Languages and Literatures annually hosts a special ceremony during Notre Dame’s commencement weekend to recognize its seniors, who this year numbered 160. Among those honored are the winners of the department’s undergraduate prizes; for the second year in a row, they included the recipient of the Robert D. Nuner Award, a College-wide distinction given to the graduating foreign language major with the highest GPA.*

*These students are asked to offer brief remarks about their language studies at Notre Dame. Here, Fabella Romanica is pleased to share excerpts from several of this year’s speeches.*

“It became apparent early on [during a year of study in Angers, France] that the French I had learned—all those verb conjugations and relative pronouns and preceding direct objects that had been pounded into me—was really the key to discovering new worlds. ... I was exposed to a variety of ideas, as I was able to have deep conversations with French people and find out what they really thought about a host of issues, from politics to religion to human rights. I didn’t always agree with them, but this exposure to very different points of view was one of the most valuable educational experiences I have had in the past four years.”

—**John Hennessey (French)**

*Winner of the Robert D. Nuner Award and the Walter Langford Award for Excellence in French Literature*

*Pursuing an M.A. in Asian studies at Lund University*

“When I enrolled in beginning Italian as a freshman, I was excited to learn a new language, especially one as beautiful as Italian. But now looking back at these four years, I can honestly say that I had no idea what I was getting myself into. Studying Italian here at Notre Dame has been an adventure that has taken me places that I could never have imagined. It has been an adventure filled with experiences that I will never forget—experiences that have changed my perspective of the world and have shaped my future.”

—**Michelle Garber (Italian)**

*Winner of the Joseph Italo Bosco Award for Italian Studies*

*Pursuing an M.A. in Italian literature at the University of Virginia*

“Some of my best teachers at Notre Dame have been my Spanish teachers. ... Professor [Marisel] Moreno’s class ‘Beyond the Islands’ that I took as one of two sophomores in a class full of seniors reminded me why I chose to study Spanish here. It really awoke in me an interest for the language and the history of the Caribbean, a region that I had not studied before. In the class, I also discovered that in order to learn, I had to put aside my shyness and ask questions.”

—**Alisha Wilkinson (Spanish)**

*Co-winner of the Walter Langford Award for Academic Excellence in Spanish*

*Working at the Farm of the Child orphanage in Trujillo, Honduras*

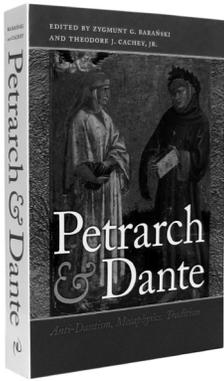
“[In spring 2008], I enrolled in two Spanish literature courses—one of which happened to fall at 8 a.m. And although every Monday and Wednesday at 7:55 I stumbled off to DeBartolo wondering what on earth had possessed me to choose such an early class, as the semester continued I found myself constantly surprised by how much I truly enjoyed those literature courses. ... And so, feeling a little nervous, I decided to go talk to the undergraduate Spanish adviser, Professor [Samuel] Amago, about the possibility of pursuing Spanish literature at the graduate level. Professor Amago’s immediate response was to ask whether literature excited me. I honestly don’t think I’ll ever forget that question—largely because it was so unexpected. Spring break is exciting. Notre Dame football is supposed to be exciting. But literature? Yet the more I thought about it, the more I began to realize that, for some reason that is impossible for me to articulate, literature does very much excite me—although I have to say I never thought I’d be so willing to admit that to my friends and classmates.”

—**Gabrielle Miller (Spanish)**

*Co-winner of the Walter Langford Award for Academic Excellence in Spanish*

*Pursuing a Ph.D. in Spanish literature at the University of Virginia*

## Dante Series Releases 10th Volume, Wins (Another) Award



The troublesome topic of Francis Petrarch's relationship to literary predecessor Dante Alighieri is the focus of *Petrarch and Dante: Anti-Dantism, Metaphysics, Tradition*, the latest addition to Notre Dame's William and Katherine Devers Series in Dante Studies.

Co-edited by Theodore Cachey, Albert J. and Helen M. Ravarino Family Director of Dante and Italian Studies, and Zygmunt Baranski (University of Cambridge),

*Petrarch and Dante* is the 10th title in the series, which is published by the University of Notre Dame Press. The book represents the culmination of a 2004 lecture series celebrating the seventh centenary of Petrarch's birth and features the work of nine leading scholars of Italian medieval literature.

Several months before the publication of *Petrarch and Dante*, Winthrop Wetherbee (Cornell University) saw his *The Ancient Flame: Dante and the Poets*, the series' ninth book, included in *Choice* magazine's list of Outstanding Academic Titles for 2008. Each year, *Choice* reviews some 7,000 works and places only 10 percent on the annual list; this marked the third time a Devers volume was so recognized.

The Dante series—home as well to a winner of the Modern Language Association's Aldo and Jeanne Scaglione Publication Award for a Manuscript in Italian Literary Studies—was founded in 1995 and is one component of Notre Dame's William and Katherine Devers Program in Dante Studies. Cachey, who is also professor of Italian and chairperson of the Department of Romance Languages and Literatures, and Christian Moevs, associate professor of Italian, serve as editors of the series, which publishes works on Dante from a wide variety of disciplinary viewpoints and in diverse scholarly genres.

Visit <http://www.dante.nd.edu/> for more information.

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