

## Foreign Languages and Literatures

Foreign Languages and Literatures (FL&L) stands at an exciting crossroads, expanding our faculty and strengthening our senior lecturer core while also rethinking our mission. Starting in AY2013, we began rebuilding our faculty through a hire in French history as well as the hiring of two new senior lecturers in Chinese and Japanese. Over the next three years, we anticipate completing several more hires in Latin American studies, German studies, and Spanish studies. Although our faculty have traditionally focused on foreign literatures, we are now composed of a diverse group that focuses on culture and language from several disciplines, including anthropology, history, linguistics, cultural studies, and political sociology. We believe that this multidisciplinary approach is the most appropriate for understanding the complexities of today's globalizing world. If there is one element that connects the language and culture teaching in FL&L, it is our belief in the importance of meaningful international engagement—that is, building connections that respect local differences while attending to the transformations of a globalizing world. At times, globalization is loosely understood to mean that national boundaries and ethnic differences are giving way to a world of easy interaction. Our experience is that global engagement requires a sensitivity to enduring local differences in language, culture, history, politics, and more. We offer a rich collection of courses, seminar series, and research projects to give students the training they need to be thoughtful and active global citizens.

### Academic Offerings

FL&L faculty generally teach subjects in both English and their home languages, engaging with a range of topics in culture, media, history, language, and globalization. Lecturers teach the bulk of language subjects. Chinese, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Portuguese, Russian, and Spanish are taught with the latest advances in interactive technology. Fundamental subjects familiarize students with the principles of the language and introduce them to the culture of the country in which the language is spoken. Third- and fourth-level subjects provide reviews and refinements of grammar, involve study of more difficult reading matter with cultural and literary content, and include compositions and discussions in the foreign language. Advanced subjects, conducted in the target language, encourage students to explore the cultural history of the particular country in which the language is spoken. FL&L also offers subjects in literature and culture in English and a comprehensive program in English as a second language.

Yearly enrollments in FL&L subjects have climbed somewhat during the past decade, with the highest enrollments this past academic year. Below are enrollment figures for the last 10 years.

**FL&L Enrollments, AY2004–AY2013**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Number of students</b>
2013	2,240
2012	2,132
2011	2,184
2010	2,149
2009	2,160
2008	2,166
2007	2,028
2006	2,146
2005	2,053
2004	1,928

Chinese first surpassed Spanish last year as the most heavily enrolled language subject area. Chinese enrollments are now 23% over what they were four years ago, and FL&L has expanded the number of sections of Chinese. Below are enrollment figures for

**FL&L Enrollments by Language, AY2013**

<b>Language</b>	<b>Number of students</b>
Chinese	477
Spanish	465
French	300
Japanese	296
English	250
German	186
Portuguese	86
Russian	34
Other	146

AY2013 by language area.

The latest additions to the language programs are Portuguese and Russian. The Skolkovo Foundation collaboration with Russia helped FL&L establish a Russian program in AY2013, and the Gulbenkian Foundation in Lisbon funded the new Portuguese program for the second year. FL&L again offered Very Fast Track in Japanese and Chinese. This program allows students to complete three semesters of coursework in a single semester.

FL&L led two study-abroad subjects this year. January Scholars in France is a yearly undergraduate program, funded by donors, in which students travel to a French-speaking country. This year the program was offered as a six-unit credit-bearing subject. Twelve undergraduates, led by lecturer Cathy Culot, visited Belgium and studied the arts, culture, politics, and history of that country. Additionally, FL&L offered 21F.782/783 Spanish II (Study Abroad) for the seventh time. Twenty-two students traveled to Madrid, Spain, for an immersive language-learning experience led by lecturer in Spanish Roberto Rey Agudo.

Foreign languages topped the list of concentrations offered in the School of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences (SHASS) with a total of 490 concentrators in AY2013. The breakdown of concentrators was as follows: Spanish (123), Chinese (118), French (91), Japanese (72), German (47), Portuguese (13), English (7), other languages (11), International Culture and Literature (6), and Theory of Languages (2). The number of undergraduates who minored in an FL&L subject was 41, with the breakdown as follows: French (12), Japanese (11), Spanish (8), Chinese (6), and German (4). FL&L administered one major this year in French and one in Latin American studies; both students graduated in June 2013.

### **Faculty and Instructors**

The section had a transition in leadership this year. Shigeru Miyagawa stepped down in January 2013 and Ian Condry became head of the section.

FL&L presently has nine faculty members: Catherine Clark, Ian Condry, Elizabeth Garrels, Shigeru Miyagawa, Bruno Perreau, Jeff Ravel, Emma Teng, Jing Wang, and Elizabeth Wood. Associate professor Condry was promoted to professor effective AY2014. Two faculty members have dual appointments: Miyagawa in linguistics and Teng in history. Condry and Wang have secondary appointments in comparative media studies/writing. This year, FL&L added two full professors from History—Ravel (French history) and Wood (Russian history)—holding joint appointments. Along with faculty, FL&L is home to 18 full-time and 17 part-time lecturers who teach all levels of foreign languages offered in the section.

This year FL&L conducted a successful search for an assistant professor of French studies to start in AY2014 (to replace at the junior level the faculty line held previously by Edward Baron Turk). Catherine Clark is a historian of modern France with central research interests in the history of visual culture and urban history. She completed a PhD in modern European history with a graduate certificate in visual studies at the University of Southern California in 2012.

To strengthen the leadership of the Japanese and Chinese programs, FL&L conducted searches and hired a senior lecturer in both languages. Responsibilities for these positions will include teaching undergraduate language courses, mentoring lecturers, advising students, serving on search and review committees, and participating in the administration of the language program.

Takako Aikawa was hired as a senior lecturer in Japanese to begin in AY2014. Aikawa received her PhD in Japanese linguistics from Ohio State University in 1993. She has taught at various universities both in Japan and in the United States, including MIT. Aikawa worked previously at Microsoft Research as a program manager on the Machine Translation team.

Hao-hsiang Liao was hired as a senior lecturer in Chinese to begin in AY2014. Liao received his PhD in Chinese language pedagogy from Ohio State University. He has taught at some of the leading programs in the country, including Harvard and Williams.

FL&L also conducted a search and hired a full-time lecturer in English language studies, Eric Grunwald, whose appointment begins next academic year. Grunwald was a temporary lecturer at FL&L in AY2013. He has a master's degree in English/creative writing from Boston University.

## Research

Professor Miyagawa is one of the founders and a project director of Visualizing Cultures, an initiative launched in 2002 to explore the potential of the web for developing innovative image-driven scholarship and learning. Visualizing Cultures represents a substantive offshoot of MIT's OpenCourseWare initiative, designed to make pedagogical and scholarly content freely and widely available. Professor Miyagawa was a member of the committee that first developed this groundbreaking project, which has inspired counterpart initiatives on the web worldwide. In May 2013, Visualizing Cultures and the Council on East Asian Studies at Yale University sponsored a conference, *Visualizing Asia in the Modern World*, devoted to "image-driven scholarship."

Professor Condry founded the MIT/Harvard Cool Japan research project in 2006. The project encourages scholarly debate, research, and networking in the Boston area for faculty and students interested in media and globalization related to Japan. In March 2013, Cool Japan hosted a screening of the anime film *Wolf Children* and a director's talk by Mamoru Hosoda attended by 500 people. This event was paired with a well-attended book launch event for Condry's *The Soul of Anime*. In April, Cool Japan also hosted "The Cultural Feedback of Noise," a talk by David Novak, an assistant professor of music at the University of California, Santa Barbara. In July 2012, Cool Japan sponsored a cultural action panel discussion and DJ party in Tokyo.

FL&L's Center for Bilingual/Bicultural Studies (CB/BS), under the directorship of Professor Teng, explores the intersection between the politics of language and culture and the new global realities of the 21st century. CB/BS held a very successful two-day interdisciplinary symposium in October 2012 on the topic of "Border Crossing: Citizenship, Race, Gender"; the event drew presenters from nine campuses including MIT (with representatives from nine different Institute departments or sections), Harvard, Northeastern, Boston College, the University of Maine, Columbia, the University of Southern California, and the University of California, Berkeley. CB/BS sponsored a lecture in the spring by Evelyn Hu-DeHart, professor of history and ethnic studies and director of the Center for the Study of Race and Ethnicity in America at Brown University. For the third consecutive year, CB/BS awarded a student writing prize: the Isabelle de Courtivron Prize for student writing on topics related to immigrant, diaspora, bicultural, bilingual, and mixed-race experiences.

For several years, Professor Wang has been heavily involved in NGO2.0, a collaborative project she launched in 2009 to enhance the digital and social media literacy of grassroots nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) in the underdeveloped regions of China. She organized a series of workshops on civic media in China this academic year.

Professor Perreau launched the MIT Research Seminar in French and Francophone Studies this year to bring together MIT faculty, instructors, and graduate students interested in the study of French and francophone cultures across disciplines. A spring seminar series hosted three scholars: Todd Shepard, associate professor of history and codirector of the Program in the Study of Women, Gender, and Sexuality at Johns Hopkins University; Marie-Hélène Huet, M. Taylor Pyne professor of French at Princeton; and Laurent Dubois, Marcello Lotti professor of romance studies and history at Duke University. As a result of this collaboration, Huet agreed to become a visiting faculty affiliate in French and francophone studies at FL&L in AY2014.

Professor Ravel played a key role in helping to organize a conference hosted by MIT and Harvard in April. The 59th Annual Meeting of the Society for French Historical Studies, held in Cambridge, featured 110 panels and drew over 500 participants from around the world. Ravel and Perreau were among the presenters.

In addition, FL&L hosted a number of other events this academic year. In April 2013, the FL&L Japanese language group hosted the 13th Boston Area Speech Event in Killian Hall. Two students each from Boston College, Boston University, Brandeis, Northwestern, Harvard, MIT, and Wellesley presented speeches in Japanese. In March 2013, the French group hosted a talk by French writer Bessora. In May 2013, FL&L sponsored “A Conversation with Award-Winning Portuguese Author, Dulce Maria Cardoso.” In November 2012, FL&L hosted a lecture by Dr. Mário Mesquita: “Portuguese Media: From State Censorship to the Age of the Internet (1968–2000).”

### **Honors and Awards**

Professor Teng was named a 2013 MacVicar Faculty Fellow, recognized for her outstanding undergraduate teaching, mentoring, and educational innovation. SHASS appointed Teng as the new director of the Program in Women’s and Gender Studies beginning next academic year. In February, Professor Perreau was awarded the status of research affiliate at the Sociology Laboratory of the University of Lausanne, Switzerland, in recognition of his work on family policies in France and Europe. Professor Miyagawa was named to the Anniversary Professorship at the International Christian University in Tokyo.

Senior lecturer Ellen Crocker received a grant from the Max Kade Foundation. The award will fund the residency of Kristof Magnusson, a German-Icelandic writer, in spring 2014. Lecturer Leanna Rezvani was awarded a Marion and Jasper Whiting Foundation Fellowship for Research in France.

SHASS recognizes excellence in teaching each year with the James A. and Ruth Levitan Award. This year two FL&L lecturers received the award, Tong Chen and Margarita Groeger, and an additional six FL&L faculty and lecturers were nominated.

Each year, FL&L accepts proposals from instructors for the Gilberte Furstenberg and Douglas Morgenstern Fund Award for Innovation in Language Instruction. This year lecturers Roberto Rey Agudo, Masami Ikeda-Lamm, Dagmar Jaegar, Yoshimi Nagaya, and Leanna Rezvani had projects funded.

## Publications

Professor Condry's book *The Soul of Anime: Collaborative Creativity and Japan's Media Success Story* was published by Duke University Press in January. A well-attended book launch was held at MIT in conjunction with a public screening of *Wolf Children* and an appearance by director Mamoru Hosoda. Condry's book review of *China with a Cut: Urban Youth, Music, and Globalization* by Jeroen de Kloet was accepted for publication by *American Anthropologist*. Condry was also featured on two radio programs: PRI's *The World with Marco Werman* and NPR's *All Things Considered*.

Professor Miyagawa coauthored an article appearing in *Frontiers in Psychology*, "The Emergence of Hierarchical Structure in Human Language."

Professor Teng's book *Eurasian: Mixed Identities in the US, China, and Hong Kong, 1842–1943* was accepted for publication by the University of California Press and is expected out in July 2013. Teng's article "A Problem for Which There Is No Solution: Eurasians and the Specter of Degeneration in New York's Chinatown" was published in the *Journal of Asian American Studies* in October 2012. Her article "Focus on Research: Emma J. Teng F'06 on the Hidden Histories of Mixed Race Families" was published on the website of the American Council of Learned Societies. She also published a chapter in the book *Qing Dynasty Politics and National Identity* titled "Forgetting the Nation? Adopting the Nation?: Chinese-Western Inter-marriage, Dependent Citizenship, and the Question of National Identity in the Late Qing."

A Chinese edition of Professor Wang's book, *Brand New China: Advertising, Media, and Commercial Culture* was issued by Peking University Press. A special issue of *positions: east asia cultures critique* titled "Reconsidering Visualizing Cultures Controversy: Issues, Debates, and Beyond," coedited by Wang, was accepted for publication.

Professor Perreau's book *The Politics of Adoption* was accepted for publication by MIT Press. Perreau also published an article in a special issue of the journal *DeSignis*, "La inversión de lo universal. Una epistemología de los estudios gays y lésbicos en Francia" ("Inverting the Universal. Epistemology of Gay and Lesbian Studies in Contemporary France"). Perreau coedited a special issue of the journal *Politique et Sociétés* on "Sexuality and Politics in the Francophone World." Perreau published two opinion columns in the French daily newspaper *Libération*, one of France's main daily newspapers: "Le Comité national d'éthique, gardien de la famille?" ("National Committee on Ethics, Gatekeeper of the Family?") and "Le mariage pour tous, est-il straight?" ("How Straight Is France's Gay Marriage Bill?").

Lecturer Nilma Dominique's new book, *La comunicación sin palabras: Estudio comparativo de gestos usados en España y Brasil* (*Communication without Words: A Comparative Study on Gestures Used in Spain and Brazil*) was released by the publication bureau of the Universidad De Alcalá.

## Conferences and Presentations

FL&L faculty members were invited to present their research at numerous national and international conferences during the year. The following is a selected list.

Professor Miyagawa gave lectures in the United States, Japan, and Belgium, including “OpenCourseWare and Open Education,” the keynote lecture at the 2013 Education Expo in Tokyo; “A Typology of the Root Phenomena,” at a symposium (co-organized by Miyagawa and Liliane Haegeman) conducted at the 2013 meeting of the Linguistic Society of America in Boston; and “Bilingual Brain | Bicultural Identity” the invited keynote address at the 20th-anniversary celebration of the Kanda University (Chiba, Japan) graduate program in September 2012. In addition, Miyagawa presented a series of lectures on agreement and movement at Romania Nova in Natal, Brazil, in February.

In July 2012, Professor Garrels delivered a paper, “CiberSarmiento y los epígrafes del Facundo: lo que llega por mar o mula lo que llega por la red,” at the XXXIX Congreso del Instituto Internacional de Literaturas Iberoamericana (University of Cádiz, Spain). She also moderated a panel, “Sarmiento, Acevedo Díaz y el debate sobre las razas.”

Professor Condry presented “The Soul of Anime,” a keynote lecture for Japan Media Week at the Rochester Institute of Technology (Rochester, NY), in March 2013. In November 2012, he presented a paper, “Virtual Idol as Media Platform,” at the Microsoft New England Research & Development Center in Cambridge. In October 2012, he presented “Collaborative Creativity and Anime’s Global Success” at the Symposium on East Asian Studies at Cornell University (Ithaca, NY).

Professor Wang organized, co-organized, and/or spoke at a number of workshops in China, including a web 2.0 training workshop in Yinchuan, Ningxia Province (June 2013); the International Symposium on Civic Media and Information Technology at Sun Yat-sen University in Guangzhou (June 2013); the Changsha City Corporate Social Responsibility and Nonprofit Organization Partnership Forum (December 2012); and Post-Disaster Relief, Community Rebuilding & CSR: Partnerships for Sustainable Development, a forum held in Chengdu (July 2012).

In April, Professor Teng’ presented “Chinese-White Inter-marriage through the Lens of Patrician Orientalism” at the Intimate Relations: 19th-Century Chinese Immigration Before Exclusion symposium at Brown University. In March, she was a panelist at the Association for Asian Studies’ annual conference in San Diego, presenting “Other as Self?: A Ming Imperial Envoy’s View of Korea.” Also ‘in March, she presented “Reimagining the MIT Classroom: Experiments with Digital Learning” as part of MIT’s MacVicar Day panel and “Transnational Debates on Inter-marriage: The US and China Compared” at the History and Literature of Modern China Seminar at Yale University.

Professor Perreau was a discussant for the panel “Affaires sexuelles, questions sexuelles, sexualités” at the 2013 annual conference of the French Association of Political Sciences in Paris. In January, he presented a paper, “Occupying Paris Pride: Territoriality and Queer Textual Resistance,” at the 28th annual convention of the Modern Language Association (MLA) in Boston. In December, he spoke on “Gay Adoption, Gender, and the Pitfalls of French Identity” at the University of Amsterdam. In November 2012, Perreau gave a talk at the Rabat School of Governance and Economics in Morocco. In October 2012, he spoke on his latest book, *Rethinking Adoption: The Pastoral Governance of Gender*, at the Free University of Brussels.

FL&L lecturers also presented papers or lectures at a host of venues, including the Northeast Modern Language Association convention in Boston (Margarita Ribas Groeger, Dagmar Jaeger, Peter Weise); the 2013 National Chinese Language Conference, also in Boston (Tong Chen, Min-Min Liang, Jin Zhang); the 7th International Conference and Workshops on Technology and Chinese Language Teaching, University of Hawaii at Manoa (Tong Chen); the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages convention in Philadelphia (Tong Chen, Jin Zhang); the Second World Conference of Teaching of Portuguese in Fort Lauderdale, FL (Nilma Dominique); the Princeton Japanese Pedagogy Forum, Princeton, New Jersey (Masami Ikeda-Lamm); the TESOL (Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages) convention in Dallas, TX (AC Kemp); the Computer Assisted Language Instruction Consortium conference at the University of Hawaii (Sabine Levet); the National Chinese Language Conference in Boston and the meeting of the New England Chinese Language Teachers Association at Tufts University (Min-Min Liang); the Advanced Japanese and Chinese Annotators: Design, Technology and Use conference in Chicago (Yoshimi Nagaya, Jin Zhang); the 28th MLA annual convention in Boston (Roberto Rey Agudo); and the Medieval and Renaissance Conference at Barnard College in New York (Leanna Rezvani).

## Service

FL&L faculty and lecturers are active scholars who contribute to and lead many publications and organizations. For example, they serve on the editorial boards of publications such as *TransAsia: Screen Cultures* (Professor Condry); *Genre, Sexualité et Société* (Professor Perreau); and *Media Industries and Advertising & Society Review* (Professor Wang). In addition, Professor Wang serves on the editorial collective of *positions: east asia cultures critique*, and Professor Teng is a manuscript referee for the *Journal of Asian American Studies*. Also, FL&L faculty serve on the boards of directors of organizations such as the China and Inner Asia Council of the Association for Asian Studies (Professor Teng), the American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies (Professor Ravel), the Japanese Language Teachers' Association of the Northeastern Region (Yoshimi Nagaya), the New England Chinese Language Association (Tong Chen), and the American Association for Teachers of German (Ellen Crocker). Lecturer Nagaya hosted the 13th Japanese Speech Event in New England and the annual conference of the Japanese Language Teachers' Association of the Northeastern Region. FL&L faculty lead civic organizations such as the Wikimedia Foundation Advisory Board (Professor Wang).

Members of the FL&L faculty and instructors also lead or serve as members of committees and initiatives such as the MIT OpenCourseWare Faculty Advisory Committee (Professor Miyagawa), the MIT-Russia Program (Professor Wood), the Faculty Advisory Committee of the Office of Minority Education (Margarita Groeger), the MIT-Belgium Seed Fund selection committee (Cathy Culot), the SHASS de Florez Fund for Humor Committee (Jane Dunphy), and the Academic Integrity Handbook Revision Committee (AC Kemp). A number of instructors participated in the Office of Minority Education's Mentorship Advocate Program.



## **Administration**

Robin Carleton stepped down as administrative officer at the end of the past academic year to accept a position in the Music and Theater Arts program, and she was replaced by Elouise Eevee-Jones. The administrative support staff includes Jeffrey Pearlin (systems administrator), Andrea Wirth (academic administrator), and Reza Hosseini and Lisa Hickler (administrative assistants).

At the end of AY2013, the FL&L Resource Center in Room 16-668 was closed and the space was converted into a much-needed classroom. The center's materials, such as CDs, DVDs, and videotapes, will be moved to Room 14N-329c. The seven digital media studios that were part of the Resource Center remain open for independent study and projects. FL&L will also utilize the SHASS Film Office to replace some of the functions of the Resource Center.

**Ian Condry**

**Section Head**

**Mitsui Career Development Professor of Japanese Cultural Studies**