

Newsletter of the Department of
French and Italian 2007

Ohio State Students on the Move



▲ Ohio State graduates are teaching in France!

Nine recent Ohio State graduates with a major or minor in French have been chosen by the French government to teach English in elementary or secondary schools in France. This is one of the largest groups from any campus and the largest number from Ohio State in recent years.

Besides teaching English to elementary or secondary school students, participants in the program will have expanded opportunities to travel and learn about the various cultures in Europe. The French Embassy coordinates hiring for these positions, which include a stipend and health insurance.

Front row:

Marlis Fischer: B.A., 2006 (French and German); M.Ed., 2007 (Foreign Language Education) – Montpellier
JoAnna Marshall: B.A., 2006 (French and International Studies); M.S. 2007 (Microbiology) – Clermont-Ferrand
Hannah Lindsey: B.A., 2007 (French and International Studies, minor in Business) – Bordeaux

Back row:

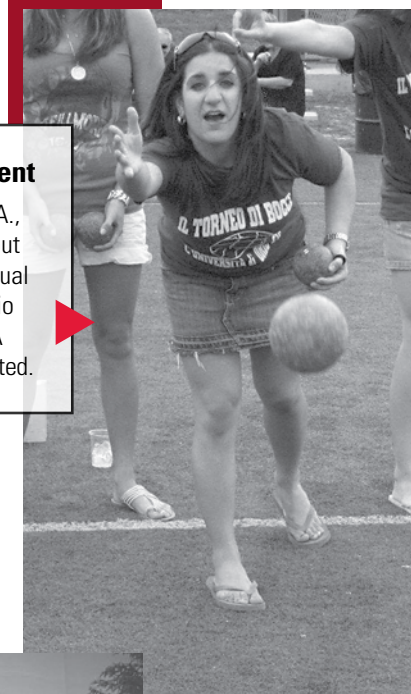
Scott Pochatila: B.S., 2007 (Mechanical Engineering, minor in French) – Créteil
Hart Ford: B.A., 2007 (International Studies and French) – Amiens
Nelson Carson: B.A., 2006 (International Studies and French) – Montpellier

Not pictured:

Drew Bunker: B.A., 2007 (French, International Studies, and History) – Nantes
Charles Heintl: B.A., 2006 (German); M.A., 2007 (Foreign Language Education) – Bordeaux
Rachel Landers: B.A., 2007 (French and International Studies) – Montpellier

First Annual Bocce Tournament

Event organizer **Rosina Caponi**, B.A., 2007 (Classics and Italian), throws out “the first bocce ball” in the first Annual Bocce Tournament sponsored by Ohio State’s Italian Club in spring 2007. A dozen three-member teams participated.



One of the best summer stories ever . . .



This September, when students returned to campus, **Matt Jepsen** had a good story to tell. “What did you do last summer?” elicited the response: “I worked at the American Embassy in Bern, Switzerland.”

Matt (Ohio State, 2009) was looking for a way to connect his interest in languages (French and German) with foreign service. Surfing the Internet, Matt found an application for an unpaid internship in Switzerland through the web site for the U.S. State Department, so he filled it out and sent it in.

Matt, a native of Powell, Ohio, then applied for and received a Huntington International Fellowship, which helped fund his internship in Switzerland. He stayed with a family that lives about 10 minutes away from the embassy (found on a real estate web site for Bern).

Matt may be well-known to those who listen to the Ohio State underground radio station, as he was one of the initial DJs to broadcast on the French program in spring quarter 2006, as well as during winter quarter 2007.

INSIDE

- From the chair
- Faculty news
- Student news
- Alumni news
- Individualized Instruction

We love to talk!

They say that you really don't know a language until you start to speak it . . . No problem! You can participate in (Crane) Café Conversations:

Café plus (for the *francophiles*)
Wednesdays from 10:15 a.m. until 11:15 a.m.
Thursdays from 3:30 p.m. until 4:30 p.m.

Caffè forte (for the *italomaniacs*)
Mondays from 4:30 p.m. until 5:30 p.m.
Tuesdays from 11:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m.

We talk about current events, everyone's life (whatever you want to share) and play games—all in either French or Italian.

Speaking of speaking, students can receive credit for being a DJ—on Ohio State University's "underground" online radio station (www.underground.fm). The course number is FR/IT 293. Contact Dr. Rebecca Bias at bias.3@osu.edu for more information.



Have you ever been in Benin? Or Togo? Jaclyn Janis, OSU 2007 (Environmental Science and French), has. Volunteering with *Jeunes volontaires pour l'environnement*, Jaclyn has been looking at the effects of dams on the lives on the Togolese since late August.

Her weekend travels take her around the west coast of Africa. During the week, Jaclyn works with Togolese administrators and other volunteers her age from Europe and Africa.

Keep up with her adventures at <http://whereistogoagain.blogspot.com>

Coming Soon!

Undergraduate Pizza Party—October 17 (Wednesday) at 5:00 p.m. in

To speak of majors and minors . . .

Picking up a minor—or a major in French or Italian—is easy! Check out information at <http://frit.osu.edu/undergraduates>, or contact Jodi Obert (obert.1) for the name of the appropriate faculty member.

Study Abroad

What's the best way to develop fluency and confidence in a language (besides Café + or Caffè forte)? That's right: study abroad. The Office of International Affairs (oia.osu.edu) coordinates several programs for French and Italian speakers. In French there are five, six and eight-week programs in Québec, Nantes or Dijon, with longer terms available in Paris or Nantes. Students of Italian can improve their language skills in Lecce, Italy (8 weeks, a semester or a year) or in Siena. Check out your options at:

<http://oia.ohio-state.edu/studyabroad/countries/france.aspx>;
<http://oia.ohio-state.edu/studyabroad/countries/canada.aspx>
or <http://oia.ohio-state.edu/studyabroad/countries/italy.aspx>.

GEC Courses for Winter 2008

If you'd like to get a taste of French or Italian culture, these GEC courses are offered during the Winter quarter, 2008:

- Italian 151 - Literature in its Cultural Context: Medieval and Renaissance
- French 152 - Francophone Literature from Africa and Francophone countries
- Italian 221 - From Neo to New: Sex and Politics in Italian Cinema
- French 250 - French Fairy Tales: Avalon to Cinderella

180 Hagerty Hall. Have questions about any of this? Ask us! (and enjoy Adriatico's pizza!)