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# http://www.pideltaphi.org PI DELTA PHI

To recognize outstanding scholarship in the French language and literature

To increase the knowledge and admiration of Americans for the contributions of France to world culture encourage cultural activities which will lead to a deeper appreciation of francophone cultures and peoples

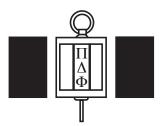
Inquiries concerning PI DELTA PHI should be addressed to:

Pocatello, Idaho 83209 Tel: (208) 282-3740; FAX: (208) 282-3098 Department of Foreign Languages 921 S. 8th Avenue, Stop: 8350 Executive Director parkpam@isu.edu Dr. Pamela Park PI DELTA PHI

# PI DELTA PHI

XL No. 1 **FALL 2008** 

**NEWSLETTER** 



# NATIONAL FRENCH

# HONOR SOCIETY

http://www.pideltaphi.org

Member of The Association of College & University Honor Societies

> National President Dr. Scott Fish, 2007-2012 Department of Modern Foreign Languages Augustana College 2001 S. Summit Ave. Sioux Falls, South Dakota 57197

The Pi Delta Phi Newsletter is published twice a year to inform each chapter about the activities and events of the organization. It is hoped that this information will inspire members to improve their roles as promoters of the French language and francophone cultures.

Please send all news items and correspondence to: Dr. Karen Renick, Editor PI DELTA PHI Newsletter California Lutheran University French Department 60 West Olsen Road Thousand Oaks, CA 91360-2700 renick@clunet.edu

# **Fall 2008 National News**

#### Pi Delta Phi Announces Official Website:

http://www.pideltaphi.org

# Annual Executive Board Meeting of Pi Delta Phi Held in Reno, Nevada



Executive Board members of Pi Delta Phi from left to right—back row: Drs. Scott Fish, Paul Wood, and Beverly J. Evans; second row: Drs. Carleen Leggett and John J. Janc; front row: Drs. Mary Gutermuth, Patricia Hopkins and Pamela Park. Photo taken by Dr. Karen Renick)

Pi Delta Phi Executive Board Members held their Public Meeting in the Prospector's Boardroom in Harrah's hotel in Reno, Nevada from 9:00am – 12:30pm, on Saturday, October 11, 2008 in conjunction with the annual convention of the Rocky Mountain Modern Language Association (RMMLA).

Those present included the Executive Director, Dr. Pamela Park (Idaho State University in Pocatello, ID), the President and Webmaster Dr. Scott Fish (Augustana College in Sioux Falls, South Dakota), the Newsletter Editor, Dr. Karen Renick (California Lutheran University in Thousand Oaks, CA), Dr. Mary Gutermuth, former Executive Director and currently Interim West Vice-President (Sam Houston State University in Huntsville, Texas), Dr. Paul Wood, Pi Delta Phi Past President (Professor Emeritus at St. Bonaventure University, St. Bonaventure, NY) and the following Vice-Presidents: Dr. Patricia Hopkins [South Central Region] (Professor Emerita from Texas Tech University in Lubbock, TX) Dr. Carleen Leggett [Southeast Region] (from Morgan State University in Baltimore, Maryland), and two new members—Dr. Beverly J. Evans [Northeast Region] (from the State University of New York at Geneseo) and Dr. John J. Janc [North Central Region] (from Minnesota State University in Mankato, MN.

# **Editor's Note**

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns regarding your specific chapter, or PI DELTA PHI in general, please contact the PDP Executive Director, Dr. Pamela Park, who may be reached at any of the following:

- 1) **e-mail address:** parkpame@isu.edu
  - postal mail: Dr. Pamela Park 921 S. 8th Ave., Stop: 8350 Dept. of Foreign Languages Idaho State University Pocatello, ID 83209-8067
- 3) **telephone:** (208) 282–3740; fax: (208) 282–3098



1. 18.



Following luncheon, members reconvened for the annual Closed Business Meeting. (Parenthetically, on Friday, October 10th Pi Delta Phi members hosted a well-attended Open Reception from  $5:00-6:30 \,\mathrm{pm}$  in the Prospector's Lounge.) After the customary welcome, introductions, announcements, and approval of last year's minutes, the board (the President, the Regional Presidents, the Webmaster, the Newsletter Editor, and the executive Director) gave their individual reports. Old Business items included a Scholarship Report, a Certificate report, and a discussion regarding the current GPA level of Regular Members, whereas New Business items concerned the future composition of the Board and the Regional Vice Presidents as well as the location of next year's Board Meeting.

# Dr. Pamela Park Presents Paper at the Rocky Mountain Modern Language Association (RMMLA) Fall 2008 Convention

The Executive Director of Pi Delta Phi, Dr. Pamela Park, presented a paper entitled "Polyeucte's Mystical Ardeur," as part of French and Francophone Studies, and more specifically, French Literature Before 1800, at Harrah's Hotel in Reno, Nevada for the Sixty-Second Annual Convention of the RMMLA.

# 2008 Joseph Yedlicka Summer Scholarship Recipients Return from France

## **Shannon Connelly**

First and foremost I would like to thank Pi Delta Phi for the wonderful opportunity they provided me in awarding me one of the prestigious Joseph W. Yedlicka Summer Study Abroad scholarships. My time in Avignon was nothing short of wonderful, so much so that even now I find it difficult to convey in words my experience in France. As a double major in anthropology and French, I had been instructed in the finer points of visiting, observing, researching, and participating with different peoples in different places. Perhaps this had been my absolute first lesson in anthropology, to appreciate the diversity the world offers and to recognize a gradation of difference in the face of humanity that only travel and personal displacement can truly expose. Needless to say, with my fascination in anthropology and my passion for French, finally being able to travel to France was a dream. However, the most cherished aspect of the program for me was the cultural immersion the séjour provided. Of course I found the courses at the Institute des Universités Américaines interesting—I took a practical and theoretical theater course, as well as a course that discussed the archaeological and architectural heritage of southern Provence—but participating in the actual French way of life was by far the most thrilling aspect of the program.

I purposely write "actual" because that was indeed my life while in France. I lived with a magnificent French woman who was not only hospitable, but offered

insight into the French perspective of life. As any anthropological linguist would inform you, different languages embody different means of perceiving the world environment including different means of expressing oneself in that environment. Certainly, because my host mother could not speak English let alone understand English, the French language became a natural language and means of perception and expression. Furthermore, with the conversations we engaged in, conversations concerning government, the economy, cultural differences and similarities, French heritage, and personal life histories, I felt myself surpass the bounds of "American tourist" or even "American student abroad" to a French woman. I will never forget the evening when my French host mother noticed this, and she told me "Here, you are French."

Of course I also traveled. I traveled with my archaeology/architecture class and also with friends that I had made at the institute—such good friends that we have kept in touch even after returning to our different corners of the US; we visited French country villages and cities, Roman and Medieval ruins, and we even took the train to Barcelona, Spain. However the most wonderful aspect of traveling (apart from seeing the gorgeous countryside and interesting monuments) was experiencing France from the French perspective I had assumed from living with my French host mother. Rather than being an American student during the week, and an American tourist during the weekends, I was a French woman exploring the heritage of the country and her people. In a similar vein, experiencing the beauty and the diversity of the French Mediterranean region was remarkable. Apart from noting the African, Middle Eastern, Spanish, and Italian influences that have blended with the French heritage, my own French mother was a Pied Noir; she had truly amazing familial and personal stories she shared with me.

Certainly, experiencing the annual theater festival and other events of Avignon was wonderful, but I will forever remember my study abroad experience as one that allowed me to experience a different means of perceiving the world—a different perspective of being human. Even now I am unsure as to how to convey the beauty in the simplicity of being immersed into the normalcy of life in Avignon—the normalcy that one reaches from leaving the state of "enamored foreigner and tourist." The simple pleasure of walking through the winding streets coming home from the institute, exchanging excited greetings with my French mother as we talked about how each of our days unfolded, sharing dinner, going out with my friends to catch a movie, a theater spectacle, or traveling on a regional train during the weekend with other French persons...Upon my return when friends and family flooded me with the usual question of how my study abroad went, I could only reply "absolutely amazing"—any other explanation seems to fall short in doing justice to my experience. Truly, I will forever cherish my time in Avignon; I feel I have not only become a more proficient French student, but a stronger person who is more aware of the nuances of what it means to be human. Although the most beautiful aspect of my time in France was realizing that in spite of the differences, we are all the same; after a time, my French host mother became simply my French mother, and my foreign study abroad morphed

Also welcoming new members were SHSU foreign languages faculty members Debra Andrist, Shirin Edwin, Mary Gutermuth, Frieda Koeninger, Kay Raymond and Rafael Saumell-Munoz.

In addition, the chapter organized a book sale from Oct. 13-17 to raise money for the local chapter. I am pleased to report that the chapter raised a total of \$208.23 that will be used towards French activities, dues for honorary members and other causes. Among the items on sale were French literary books, textbooks and workbooks (older editions), French music LPs and books on travel, business and tourism and old Paris Match issues.

A total of six student members of ETA IOTA volunteered their time to help with the sale, sorting books and working in shifts between classes from 10:00 am till 5:00 pm all week. We are indeed fortunate and honored to have such dedicated and committed students in French.



ETA IOTA New Members

MU LAMBDA chapter at Hollins University did not have any new initiates this past year. Chapter members who were still on campus engaged in several activities to help promote French across the campus and to the public at large. The chapter co-sponsored the annual French Film Festival that featured films by the "French Hitchcock," Claude Chabrol. In addition, MU LAMBDA sponsored a talk by Mary Jo Fassié about Roanoke's Sister City, St. Lô.



The late Associate Moderator for the THETA PSI Chapter and Conseiller of the Cercle, Dr. Sandye Jean McIntyre)

**ETA IOTA** chapter at Sam Houston State University initiated seven students and three honorary members into the national French honor society during its annual ceremony on Wednesday (April 30, 2008).

Those included were Patrick Bashor, Carey Chartier, Tamera Claunch, Erica Hill, Jessica Holland, Ashton Mouton and Ashlyn Rmmenrt. In addition, assistant professor of French Madalina Akli and Richard Edwards, sponsor of the Seola Arnaud and R.V. Edwards endowed Scholarship in French, were induced into Pi Delta Phi as honorary members.

Established in 1906, Phi Delta Phi is one of the oldest national academic societies in the U.S. with 330 chapters in the U.S. and two related in France. The organization is dedicated to recognizing outstanding scholarship in French, increasing the knowledge and appreciation of French-speaking cultures around the world, and stimulating and promoting the study of Francophone cultures. To be inducted as a member, students must have taken at least 18 hours of French and maintain an overall grade point average of 3.0 with a "B" average in French.

The ceremony was conducted by Eta Iota students president heather Liner and secretary Jennah Burleson, and attended by local members of the society, family and friends of the initiates.

to my being in a country that was natural and at home to me. Thank you Pi Delta Phi.

# Shannon Connolly

Senior at Kansas State University in French and Anthropology

#### Monica Williams

Dear Pi Delta Phi,

I am so excited to share with you my experiences in France. I am an undergraduate student at St John's University and I was one of the recipients of the Yedlicka scholarship. I attended a seven week summer session at the American University of Paris (AUP) and I took two French courses, European Urban Myths and Mediterranean Food and Culture, taught by Professors Roussel and Navarro, respectively. European Urban Myths was about ancient cities like Babylon and Alexandria, and it analyzed legends passed down from generation to generation like the tale of the Trojan War. Mediterranean Food and Culture started with the oldest known written recipes in Mesopotamia and then it examined different meal rituals that influence, and are influenced by culture. The class also went on outings to restaurants in Paris including to the oldest Parisian restaurant, Café Procope, which was frequented by intellectuals like Voltaire. Even though I was excited to begin my classes, I was nervous at first because I did not know if my proficiency in French would be high enough but I was happily surprised when I received my first grade on a written assignment in Professor Navarro's class and she wrote "C'est parfait! Mais as-tu travaillé seule?" I definitely enjoyed the subject matter of the courses and they challenged me, which helped to increase my fluency in French.

Outside of the classroom, I met many new people who were also visiting AUP for the summer as well as students who attended AUP full-time; people with whom I will continue to stay in touch. The only downside to hanging out with AUP students was that we mostly spoke English together so I had to limit the time that I spent with them to ensure that I took full advantage of speaking French. All the same, I had many fun times with the AUP students including having lunch in the park under the Eiffel Tower; watching the fireworks at the Champ de Mars on July 14, the French national holiday; shopping during the Soldes (a big shopping event during July and August during which ALL of the stores have major discounts); going to the movie theaters; and of course going to bars, clubs, and restaurants. In addition, I took advantage of the excursions that were offered by the university. For example, I visited the houses of the famous painters, Monet and Van Gogh, I attended a ballet at the Palais Garnier, and I visited the Champagne region of France where authentic champagne is produced, and on that same trip I dined at a 4-star restaurant where the food was amazing! On my own, I attended two concerts of which one was during Paris' "Fête de la

Musique" where I listened to performers from different francophone countries. In addition, I was fortunate to have a Parisian friend who was an excellent host and guide of the city and of the culture.

This time spent abroad was a once-in-a-lifetime experience where I was able to pursue my passion of French in the classroom as well as in the city of Paris. I read French writers like Brillat-Savarin and I mastered the Paris subway at the same time. Furthermore, I was able to share in the French culture as well as offer insight to others about my own culture. I enjoyed the food, wine, and champagne, talked to the people, and attended church in French.

I would like to thank Pi Delta Phi for extending to me this opportunity. I absolutely LOVED Paris and AUP and I will be returning. The students and staff at AUP were so welcoming and I even met two faculty members from Pi

Delta Phi who were so gracious in welcoming me to Paris.

I would definitely recommend studying abroad to other students because it was an eyeopening experience. It has changed me for the better because I opened myself up to another culture,
which has allowed me to understand the world a
little bit more. I feel so blessed to share my positive
experiences with not only the members of Pi Delta
Phi, but also my family, friends, and church. I cannot
express how much this was a PRICELESS experience! I thank you once again for allowing me to
achieve my dream of studying in France.



Maud Nicolas and Monica Williams

Sincerely,

Monica Williams

#### **Amber Bush**

First of all I would like to thank Pi Delta Phi for giving me the opportunity to study in France this summer. It was the most amazing experience of my life! Second, I would like to thank Dr. Jim Wilkins for believing in me and helping me apply for the scholarship that I never thought was possible for me to receive. I, Amber Bush, never thought in a million years that I would be one of two students selected to win a full scholarship to study in Avignon. However, I applied anyway in the off chance that I could. When I heard the news I cried in disbelief. Going to France was all I ever wanted, but something out of my reach because of finances. The classes that I took at the Institute for American Universities (IAU) were very challenging. I chose a literature class called "Entre Deux Langues" and a class called "Architecture et Archéologie." The literature class was by far the most challenging class that I have ever taken. The teacher pushed us and did not accept anything but our best. The class was very engaging and explored the idea of other languages bringing the learner a new identity. Through the architecture class we were able

tic French restaurant; Dr. McIntyre taking a role, along with Dr. Leggett, in one of some 50 French comedies which he authored and in which he directed his students.

Dr. Leggett, Morgan's current Fulbright Program Director, was pleased, as recipient, to wear the sash of the Dr. Sandye Jean McIntyre, II, International Award at a fall convocation at Morgan and to pass on the award to Dr. N'gom. The convocation honored Dr. McIntyre, the university's Founding Fulbright Program Director, and Morgan's 120 Fulbright Scholars.



THETA PSI ((left to right): Dr. M'baré N'gom, current Chair of the Department of World Languages and International Studies; Ms. Nwaogu; Ms. Lapps; Ms. Blugh; and Dr. Leggett.)



(Pi Delta Phi banner and award)

ZETA OMEGA chapter at Central Michigan University in Mt. Pleasant, Michigan inducted ten new members to Pi Delta Phi on April 15, 2008. The chapter moderator, Dr. Amy J. Ransom and chapter President Samantha McCullough, welcomed new members into the society. The ceremony program included readings from Gilles Vigneault by Dr. Gilles Labrie and Baudelaire by Dr. Keith Palka.



(ZETA OMEGA) (l. to r.) Lindsay Blackmore, Ryan Mertaugh, Lauren DeLong, Tyler Morkin, Jacqueline Grimshaw, Amanda Oberski, Shelby Walls, Carmen Occhipinti, Heather Shock, and Michael Pachla

THETA PSI chapter at Morgan State University (President: Ms. Annmicha T. Blugh; Moderator and National Vice-President for the Southeast Region; Dr. Carleen S. Leggett) held its initiation ceremony on April 30, 2008. Two students were accepted as new members of the Chapter: Ms. Subria R. Lapps and Ms. Nkechi N. Nwaogu. Pictured are the Pi Delta Phi banner, initiation program, special award, and also the following faculty and initiates (left to right): Dr. M'baré N'gom, current Chair of the Department of World Languages and International Studies; Ms. Nwaogu; Ms. Lapps; Ms. Blugh; and Dr. Leggett.

Theta Psi, often in cooperation with Morgan's Cercle Français, offered a variety of programs during the 2007-2008 academic year. The Chapter and the Cercle received an award from the American Association of Teachers of French-Maryland Chapter for "Semaine du Français" activities in November. Other programs included a "Soirée de théâtre," a "Programme de jeux" and a continuing series of French and Francophone African films.

The life and accomplishments of the late Associate Moderator for the Theta Psi Chapter and Conseiller of the Cercle, Dr. Sandye Jean McIntyre II, were celebrated by the Chapter, as well as by Morgan State University. Pictured in the photo collage (from the left and clockwise) are: Dr. McIntyre wearing the International Award Sash named in his honor and the Palmes Académiques medal (Officer rank); Senegalese President Léopold Sédar Senghor and Dr. McIntyre, Honorary Consul of the Republic of Senegal; Drs. McIntyre and Leggett, along with Pi Delta Phi and Cercle members, at one of many luncheons at an authen-

to visit historical landmarks and ancient ruins. The place where our classes were held was a historical site itself. It was once a catholic church. Avignon is also filled with so much history and I was able to walk through it every day passing sites such as Le Palais des Papes, Le Pont d'Avignon, and wall that was built in the Middle Ages to protect the city. We were also able to visit cities such as Marseilles, Vaison la Romaine, Arles, and more! The staff at the institute was amazing as well. They were very friendly and even sat down with me to discuss my frustrations and encourage me daily! One day I had gotten lost walking to a grocery store and was not able to get a hold of my host mom, so the director came and picked me up herself! My faith is very important to me, so before I even left for France I researched churches that I could attend that lined up with my faith. If I was going to be there for 6 weeks I wanted to plug in somewhere and I thought this was a great opportunity to combine my faith and the language that I had come to love after 9 years of studying. I went to a church called "Église Évangelique de Pentecôte." I contacted the pastor and let him know that I would be coming. He was extremely nice and even gave me a ride to church every Sunday. I made several friends with whom I am still in touch. They helped me through my weaknesses, homesickness and frustrations. I was able to see the city through their eyes and even share my testimony. I was also able to attend a Ghanaian service.

Another activity that I was able to enjoy was French Karaoke. There was a karaoke bar that I frequented nearly every night and made lots of friends too! The first night I went just to observe, but being such a karaoke fanatic I had to join in. It took me a few nights to have the nerve to try a French song, so I stuck to English first. Then I was able to sing "A Whole New World" from Aladdin with the DJ in French ("Ce Rêve Bleu"). I was also able to try a few other songs that I had learned in the United States. This was an amazing experience because music is my joy, my safe place, and my getaway. Anytime I was feeling low all I had to do was walk 15 minutes to my second home and in no time I was laughing and having a good time.

My host family was an integral part in my learning experience as well. My host mom continuously encouraged me when I was depressed about my language skills, and she kept me going. She would sit down at dinner with me and have conversations with me in order to improve my speaking skills. One night I was even able to cook an American dish for the family: sloppy joes. They, in turn, cooked traditional French meals such as duck, duck gizzards, lamb and more.

I had such an amazing experience in Avignon this summer and have made memories that will last a lifetime such as swimming in the Mediterranean Sea twice, learning to salsa dance, eating nutella ice cream, sharing my testimony with church friends, doing karaoke in French and so much more. I definitely plan to go back and visit the friends whom I made while I was there. There is a chance that I could end up working there with a church in the future as well. Who knows? :) I am very grateful for such an opportunity and have no words to describe how much it meant to me. Thank you again for making my dream a reality!

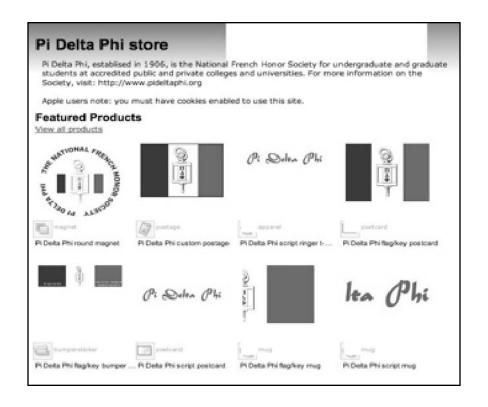
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Gratefully,

# Pi Delta Phi

Are you proud to be a member of Pi Delta Phi? Show your pride by wearing the official Pi Delta Phi t-shirt, or while drinking your daily cup of coffee in a mug decorated with the Pi Delta Phi logo.

At our online store you can find mugs, t-shirts, post cards, key chains, stickers, and more! All of this is available at www.pideltaphi.org

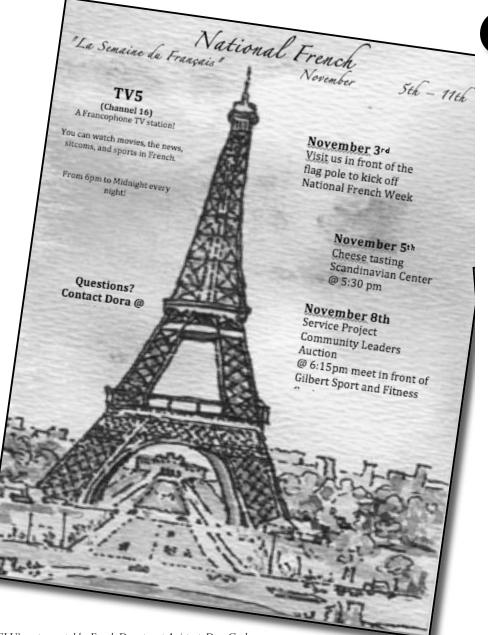


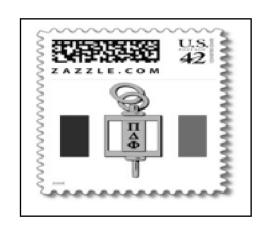




French Club and Pi Delta Phi volunteers at the October 8th CLU Community Leaders Auction.

# Online Store!







CLU's poster, created by French Department Assistant, Dora Cardona, for National French Week, November 5-11, 2008

11.

### New Chapters welcomed into Pi Delta Phi

Pi Delta Phi is proud to announce new chapters at the following institutions:

#339	XI DELTA	University of Colorado at Colorado Springs,
		Colorado, Springs, CO
#340	XI EPSILON	Coe College, Cedar Rapids, IA
		Moderator, Dr. Jaca-Aji
#341	XI ZETA	University of Massachusetts Dartmouth,
		North Dartmouth, MA
		Moderator, Dr. Stephanie O'Hare
#342	XI ETA	Midwestern State University, Wichita Falls, TX
#343	XITHETA	Linfield College, McMinnville, OR
		Moderator, Dr Thierry Durand

### Pending Chapters:

Texas Christian University (Fort Worth, TX)

Moderator, Dr. Marie Schein

Creighton University (Omaha, NE)

Moderator, Dr. Robert Kennedy, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences

### Donations to Pi Delta Phi: Giving Makes a Difference

Please remember that Pi Delta Phi is a nonprofit organization that allows many qualified students in French to benefit immensely from its generous yearly Summer Scholarship programs to selected francophone universities abroad. We know you value what Pi Delta Phi awards these students, and we ask you for any financial support you can provide our French honor society. We all acknowledge the fact that giving makes a difference.

#### Fee for Membership Dues Raised

Reminder: the membership dues for Pi Delta Phi are now \$30.00 and honor cords are \$10.00. These changes reflect the rise in costs for running the national office, especially mailings. Thank you for your understanding.

# Fall 2008 Chapter News

**ZETA CHI** chapter at California Lutheran University, Thousand Oaks, CA along with their French Club, honored the francophone world in myriad ways throughout the semester. Because the CLU French Department was awarded a grant from the French American Cultural Exchange (FACE) for the second year in a row, they enjoyed screening five francophone films during a one month period: "Les Choristes," "Fauteuils d'orchestre," "Un long dimanche de fiançailles," "Bamako," and "La Môme." This second, and well attended, "Tournées Festival" was made possible with the support of the Cultural Services of the French Embassy and the French Ministry of Culture (CNC), and is sponsored by the Florence Gould Foundation, the Grand Marnier Foundation, highbrow entertainment, agnès b., and the Franco-American Cultural Fund.

In addition, in early November the students and their professors helped close the "Silent Auction" part of the annual CLU Community Leaders Auction in addition to serving as runners.

For "La Semaine du Français," the French Club organized a series of functions among which were a "Fête aux fromages," with brie, Saint-André, chèvre au fenouille, au cacao, au piment, à la ciboulette, et aux fines herbes; Roquefort, camembert, mimolette, Boursin, bleu d'Auvergne, Saint-Ambert, etc. A late lunch at a neighborhood tea room/ pâtisserie, "Chocolatine" was planned for a Sunday afternoon in December. The chapter Moderator is Dr. Karen Renick.

CLU's poster for its second "Tournees Festival."

