

Lettre de la présidente

Fall 2012

Dear colleagues,

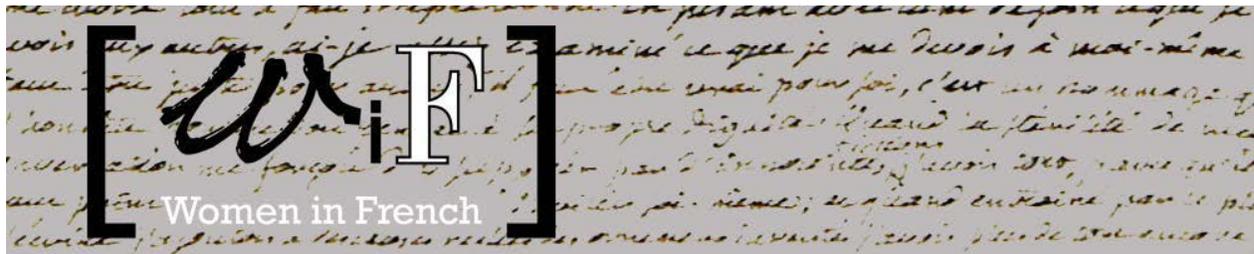
As I write this letter, we have just learned that the Modern Language Association has renewed our status as an Allied Organization for the next seven years. I wish to offer special thanks to our past president, Juliette Rogers, for composing the draft of our application, and also to thank past presidents Annabelle Rea and Mary Rice-Defosse for their help. Our renewal, however, would not have been possible without the ongoing contributions of many of you who have volunteered your services to Women in French in a variety of roles and participated in our conferences. My heartfelt thanks to you all. I'm pleased to report that our individual membership numbers remain strong (over 400) and I encourage you to renew your membership for 2013 and to invite your colleagues and graduate students to join also.

In 2013, Women in French will be celebrating the 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its founding in 1978. We have come a long way since then. Our journal, *Women in French Studies*, is now available electronically through Project Muse, thanks to the efforts of Catherine Montfort. Another WIF member deserving of thanks is Maureen Perry, who has been handling the institutional subscriptions for *Women in French Studies* for many years. We currently have over 60 institutional subscribers to our paper edition.

In 2014, we will be holding our first conference outside the borders of the United States when our host will be the University of Guelph in Ontario, Canada. We maintain a significant presence at the regional MLAs, this year most notably at RRMLA where Women in French is sponsoring a record six sessions, closely followed by PAMLA with four. You will find more details about the various sessions at regional MLAs on pages 5-7 of this newsletter.

My thanks and gratitude go to Eileen McEwan who has served as our wonderful Treasurer for the past six years. As a result of her stewardship, WIF remains in a sound financial position. Congratulations also to her on a richly deserved sabbatical beginning in July 2013. She will be working closely with our new Treasurer, Molly Enz, to assure a smooth transition beginning in January.

This year we are holding elections for a representative to the WIF Executive Board from the West. The sole candidate's statements can be found on pages 2-3. Voting will be done electronically for these positions and for the topic for our MLA session in 2014 in Chicago. Please submit your ballots by December 31, 2012.



I hope to see many of you at MLA in Boston this January. On Thursday evening, January 3, we will host a networking session/cash bar from 8:45-10:00 p.m. in the Dalton Room of the Sheraton Hotel. We will provide hors d'oeuvres. Please plan to attend and invite your friends to join us. We will also have a short Business Meeting at that time. All are welcome. Our regular session "Périodes charnières dans les vies de femmes" is scheduled on Friday, January 4, from noon-2:15 p.m. in Hynes 313. Then on Saturday, January 5, we are co-sponsoring a session with the Simone de Beauvoir Society, "The Influence of Simone de Beauvoir's Writings on Following Generations of French Women Writers." This session will take place also in Hynes 313, from 1:45-3:00 p.m.

Finally, we are interested in developing some new features for the *Women in French Newsletter* to make it an even more valuable resource for our members. These might include short descriptions (not reviews) of recent books of interest to our members or ideas and resources for teaching specific courses, topics or authors. Please send your ideas and suggestions to our newsletter editor, Cheryl Morgan.

Best wishes to all,

Mary Anne Garnett  
University of Arkansas at Little Rock