Letter from Professor David Dinneen

Website for Alumni of the Department of French & Italian

In February of this year (2003), we published a newsletter for alumni, containing news and comments from many alumni who responded to a questionnaire we sent out in 2000. What was originally intended to be a century-ending newsletter has now developed into a regularly updated "Alumni Notes," available on the web page given here:

http://www.ku.edu/~frnwsltr/feb03.htm

At present, the site contains the original set of alumni notes, alphabetically by decades (from the 1930s to the 1990s), with a brief introduction. When the revision is complete, there will be a regularly updated "alumni notes" section, plus a separate section for the most recently received responses, one for notes by former faculty, and various other sections.

We have alumni all over the world and, although many no longer have a direct connection with French or Italian, many have commented on how much they still love the language and take every opportunity to use it. Some of the comments are wonderfully expressed testimonials for the value of a liberal arts education in general and a strong foundation in language in particular. Respondents told us what they've been doing since graduation, related anecdotes about their time at KU and, in particular, about any Study Abroad experiences they may have had.

We encourage you to look at the web page next time you're on the internet and scroll through the entries. Of course, if you're an alumna/-us who has not had a chance to respond to the original questionnaire, we'd very much like to have you respond as soon as you can: the basic information is in the introduction to the web page.

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