

THE UNIVERSITY

C CHIMERE **S**



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LANGUAGE, AND CULTURE**

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A JOURNAL OF FRENCH LITERATURE,
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F**rom the desk of the editor**

Scott Manning

As you probably noticed, this issue of *Chimères* is actually a double-issue: volume XXIII, numbers 1 and 2. But it is unusual in another, more substantive way as well: It contains a selection of papers given at the first Graduate Student Conference in French Language, Literature, and Culture to take place at the University of Kansas. The two day event was quite successful, with participants attending from universities both near and far alongside those of us from the French and Italian Department at the University of Kansas. The conference was sponsored by *Chimères* in part as a way to raise awareness about the journal, which gives graduate students and untenured faculty a forum in which to publish their research. To that end, seven of the presentations delivered at the conference appear in this special issue.

Many people helped with the conference, but I would like to thank Eric Matheis in particular for coordinating its organization, and the faculty of the Department of French and Italian for their support of this endeavor. I would also like to recognize the many graduate students who came to the University of Kansas to participate in the conference, and who helped to make it so interesting.

