Graduate Research Assistant Wins Chateaubriand Fellowship to Study in France

Lauren Upadhyay, a fifth-year Ph.D. student in the French graduate program, has been working as a research assistant at the Correspondence of Samuel Beckett since fall 2012. She has been awarded a Chateaubriand Fellowship for spring 2014 by the French Embassy in the United States, to continue dissertation research at the Institut Mémoire de l'Édition Contemporaine (IMEC) in Caen, France, through an affiliation with the Université Paris 3 and the Centre de Recherches en Études Féminines et Genres. Her dissertation project, entitled "Ecrire le ravissement: Elaboration du personnage dans Le Ravissement de Lol V. Stein et Le Vice-Consul de Marguerite Duras", uses a textual genetic method - comparing the preparatory drafts and manuscripts of the novels with the final, published version - to examine how the writer created her complex characters, and to show these texts in evolution for the first time ever. Her dissertation is co-directed by Dr. Philippe Bonnefis of Emory University, and Dr. Eric Le Calvez of Georgia State University.

Lauren has a MA in French from Georgia State University (2007). Her Master's thesis, entitled "Souvenirs du temps: le jeu du pseudo-récit dans Souvenirs du Triangle d'Or", was directed by Dr. Eric Le Calvez, and represents a narratological approach to Alain Robbe-Grillet's Souvenirs du Triangle d'Or. Her other research interests include archival studies/preservation, silences and ellipses in the text, the Nouveau Roman, narratology, female writers and feminine expression, post-colonial questions of identity, and religious/cultural phenomena within the literary text.