

## MEMORIAL RESOLUTION

**Samuel N. Rosenberg**

**(January 19, 1936 – June 30, 2020)**

Our dear colleague, Samuel N. Rosenberg, professor emeritus of French and Italian, passed away on June 30, 2020. He will be sorely missed by his colleagues, friends, and former students. Prof. Rosenberg received an A.B. summa cum laude from Columbia College of Columbia University in 1957 and earned a Ph.D. in Romance Philology from Johns Hopkins University in 1965. He spent most of his professional career at Indiana University, Bloomington, which he joined in 1962. He was chair of the French and Italian department from 1977 to 1984 and retired in 2000.

A dedicated and versatile teacher, Prof. Rosenberg taught a wide variety of undergraduate and graduate courses: French grammar and composition, history of the French language, comparative stylistics of French and English, history of Italian language, Old Italian texts, French literature of the Middle Ages, the Prose *Lancelot*, and his beloved specialty, Old French lyric poetry. Rosenberg directed thirteen Ph.D. dissertations, five of which resulted in scholarly publications. His many distinctions and honors included a National Endowment for the Humanities Research Grant (1989-92). Always generous of his time, he was first bibliographer, then editor of *Encomia: Bibliographical Bulletin of the International Courtly Literature Society* from 1981 to 2010.

A renowned and prolific scholar, Sam published a great number of erudite books and articles on Old and Middle French lyric, as well as on Hebrew lyric poetry. Among these, his *Chansons de trouvères* (1995), his *Old French Ballette* (2006), and his *Sottes chansons contre Amours : parodie et burlesque au Moyen Âge* (2010) stand out particularly and will undoubtedly be reference works for many years to come. One of the most striking features of Sam's scholarship was his love of working with long-standing friends and colleagues on these critical editions and translations of *trouvère* lyric poetry, as well as Arthurian romances. This is a telling testimony to his collaborative and generous personality. During his retirement and up until recently, he continued to produce an impressive number of books and articles, often turning to new subject matters: *Berlioz on Music: Selected Criticism, 1824-1837* (2015), *The Jews of the South of France* (2019), and *Paul Verlaine: A Bilingual Selection of His Verse* (2019), the latter being edited by Prof. Nicolas Valazza. Sam was always considerate, kind and helpful with his colleagues, particularly with beginning scholars.

In December 2019, at the Sidney and Lois Eskenazi Museum of Art, Sam gave a reading of some of Verlaine's poems he had translated. Those of us who were fortunate to be in attendance will always cherish this memory. Sam will be remembered with deep respect and affection by all those who knew him.

We request that this memorial tribute to Samuel Rosenberg be presented to the members of the Bloomington Faculty Council, and that it be preserved in its minutes and archive.

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Professor emeritus of French and Italian  
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