

on the project say its format encourages the exploration of ideas. Emily Trapani '14, now a policy analyst at a governmental affairs firm in Washington, D.C., says she found it provided a platform “that’s not directed by one teacher, or one professor, who may disseminate information through their personal lens.” Sharing a stage in a moderated discussion also meant that guests had to “engage in a productive conversation, rather than a shut-down conversation.”

Shalin Nohria '14, now a second-year law student at the University of Virginia, says he found that Politics and Markets Project panels were useful in “getting past the sound bites and into conversations that were more nuanced.”

Notably, those nuanced conversations continue to take place among guests who arrive with well established points of view. There’s a value, Primo says, in listening to experts—including professors—who consider issues through a particular lens.

“There’s this idea that students shouldn’t know anything about our views,” says Primo. “But that sort of treats us like automata. We do have perspectives. And I think it’s useful for students to see how we came to those perspectives, and to see how we evaluate those perspectives.”

In books, journal articles, op-eds, and testimony before the United States Congress, Primo has argued against various forms of regulation and for spending restraint. A consistent theme in his research is the unintended consequences of government regulations in diverse arenas, from transportation to campaign finance.

At a time when the prospect for civil debate on college campuses has become a national issue, there’s renewed appreciation on the River Campus of the need for students across the political spectrum to have their ideas and assumptions challenged. On the day after the Politics and Markets Project panel, Richard Feldman, dean of the College, shared a platform with Primo and guests from Rochester Institute for Technology and the University of Pennsylvania on the current affairs program “Connections,” aired locally on the National Public Radio affiliate, WXXI.

“College campuses should be the home for free speech, investigation of ideas, [and] students should be willing to listen to views that they disagree with and argue back,” Feldman said. In fact, he added in a nod to Primo, there had been an event featuring this kind of exchange just the previous evening. “It was a respectful, intelligent, rational discussion—just the kind of thing we want.”

## LITERARY TRANSLATION


# Open Letter Novels Win Translated Book Awards

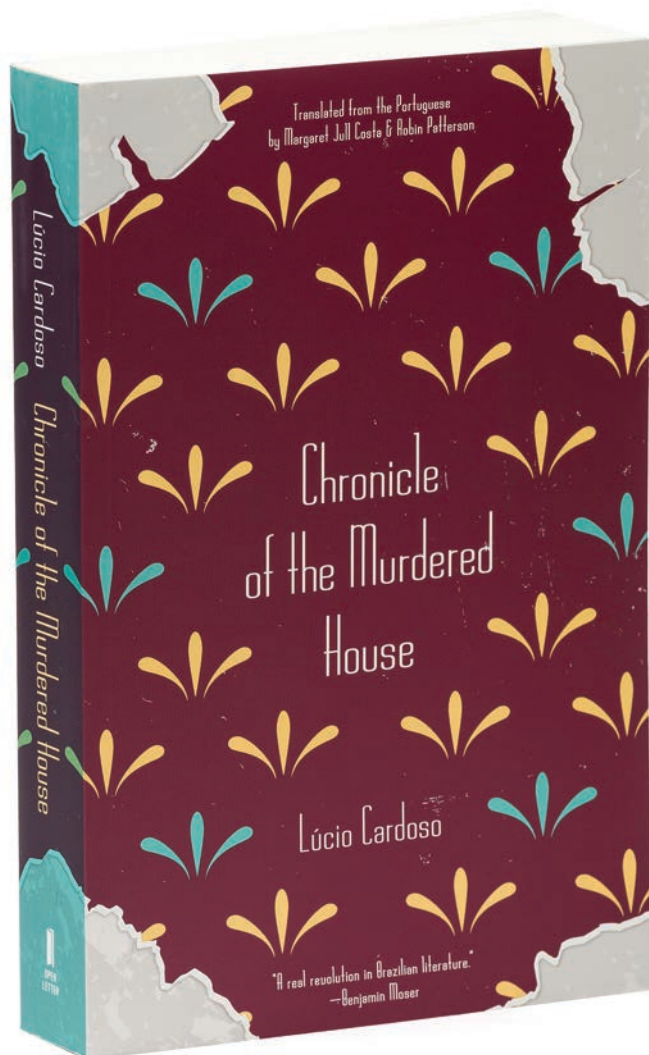
Brazilian novel *Chronicle of the Murdered House*, written by Lúcio Cardoso and translated from the Portuguese by Margaret Jull Costa and Robin Patterson, has earned the 2017 Best Translated Book Award for Fiction.

The book was published by Open Letter, the University’s translation press. The award is the first for Open Letter in the competition founded by Open Letter’s Three Percent online journal to highlight literary excellence from around the world.

In the poetry category, Alejandra Pizarnik’s collection *Extracting the Stone of Madness*, translated from the Spanish

by Yvette Siegert and published by New Directions, won the top award.

And Open Letter’s novel *Bardo or Not Bardo*, by Antoine Volodine and translated from the French by J. T. Mahany '13 (MA), received the inaugural Albertine Prize in May. A reader’s choice award presented by Van Cleef & Arpels and by the Cultural Services of the French Embassy, the prize recognizes American readers’ favorite work of contemporary French fiction. Mahany is a graduate of the University’s program in literary translation, an academic program that works closely with Open Letter. 



**WON IN TRANSLATION:** The translation of a highly regarded Brazilian novel published by the University’s literary press was selected for the 2017 Best Translated Book Award for Fiction.