



World Languages and Literatures

The Newsletter of the CSU San Marcos WLHL Department

Welcome

Welcome to the second edition of our newsletter! The new year has brought the department to a new location. Now you can find all our offices on the second floor of the brand new Markstein Hall building. Join us for the Grand Opening on April 26th!

This year we have been privileged to bring in very talented visiting faculty from other universities. In addition, our graduate program keeps expanding and has attracted an exceptional group of students, many of whom are also teaching some of our lower division courses.

Following the renewed interest in language education that has been brought by the government's recent National Security Language Initiative the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) has designated February as the Discover Languages month.

Remember to keep it touch with us, let us know where you are and what you have been doing lately. We are eager to hear from you, and we are sure that your friends and former classmates will be too.

New Faces in the Department

With a number of faculty on leave during the 2005-2006 academic year, the WLHL Department has had the pleasure of bringing in some very talented visiting faculty. The following visitors are teaching upper-division or graduate Spanish courses for us this year:

- Dr. Rosario Díaz-Greenberg, Ed. D. ("on loan" from CSUSM College of Education)
- Dr. Antonio Jiménez, Ph.D. from UCLA
- Dr. Pamela Redela, Ph.D. from UC San Diego
- Dr. Carlos Rubio Rodríguez, Doctorate in Bus. Admin. from United States International University ("on loan" from CETYS University, Mexico)
- Dr. Armin Schwegler, Ph.D. from UC Berkeley ("on loan" from UC Irvine)



Issue 2

February, 2006

Dr. Strother awarded Fulbright

Professor Darci Strother has been awarded a Fulbright grant to teach and conduct research in Chile in 2007. While in Chile, Prof. Strother will present faculty development workshops and teach classes at the Universidad de Playa Ancha, and the Pontificia Universidad Católica de Valparaíso. She will also study the *Inglés Abre Puertas (English Opens Doors)* program run by Chile's Ministry of Education, which is a sweeping effort eventually to provide English instruction to all elementary and high school students.

German Minor approved by Academic Senate

In their last meeting of the 2004-2005 academic year, the CSUSM academic senate unanimously approved the German Minor course of study. Beginning this academic year, students may enroll in the minor. Modeled on the Spanish and French minors, the German minor requires 12 units of upper-division course work, including advanced grammar, advanced writing, and culture of the German-speaking regions, and an additional elective upper division course. Enrollments in German remain strong. Contact Professor Hughes for more information (mhughes@csusm.edu).

Contact Information

Department of World Languages and Literatures
333 S. Twin Oaks Valley Road
San Marcos, CA 92096
Phone: (760) 750-4208
Fax: (760) 750-3120
<http://www.csusm.edu/languages/>

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Alumni Events:

U.S. Congressional Candidate Debate
March 23, 2006, 7:00 p.m., M. Gordon Clarke Field House. Event is FREE to the public. The Alumni Association of CSUSM will host a debate March 23 for candidates in the special election to fill the 50th Congressional District seat vacated by Randy "Duke" Cunningham.

First Alumni Day- currently being scheduled to coincide with Preview Day on October 7, 2006 (alumni@csusm.edu for information).



Student News

Service Learning Projects. Spanish 201 students in Profs. Michael Hughes' and Mayra Besosa's sections are participating in Service Learning, mainly as tutors in public schools. Over 30 students volunteered in fall 05 as an optional class activity, and about the same number is expected this spring.

French 101 online. Last Fall students were able to take French 101 from CSU Sacramento

Hurricane Katrina Survivor. Julia Reineman, a former student in the WLHL Master's in Spanish program, was working at Tulane University in New Orleans up until Hurricane Katrina hit. Julia made it safely out of New Orleans and has temporarily relocated to Southern California. She reports that she is doing well, and appreciates the support she has received, including a "care package" from WLHL to help replace some of the books from her personal library that was destroyed.

Rosario Díaz-Greenberg got her degree of Ed D from University of San Francisco

Ashley Heid reports completing her Master's Degree in Spanish at UC Riverside. Congratulations, Ashley! She is now applying for further graduate programs.

Silvana Flores also completed her Master's Degree in Spanish at UC Riverside. She recently married, and has relocated to the Bay Area, where she is teaching at a community college.

Gabriela Lázaro is teaching Spanish at Mt Jacinto College in Menifee, and Spanish for Medical Workers at Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science in LA.



Master's 2005 graduates: (L to R) Martha Morán, Karla Ontiveros, Gabriela Lázaro and Socorro Montoya (Not pictured: Maria Pini and Soledad Acuña)

Carey Moya has been admitted to Loma Linda University's Ultrasound Program. She's almost half-way through this challenging two-year program. ¡Buena suerte!

Bridget Nylander has been accepted to the Hispanic Summer Institute at UC Santa Barbara. Bridget will pursue her Master's degree by attending this program during a series of summers.

Karen Saffian-Jimenez is now a Spanish teacher at San Marcos High School. Karen had her students participate in part of CSUSM's Don Quijote festival (Fall 2005),

and her students also made a beautiful Don Quijote patchwork quilt which they donated to the Department of WLHL. Thanks, SMHS students, and great job!

Spring 2005 saw a record number of graduates from our Master's in Spanish program. Congratulations to: Soledad Acuña, Gabriela Lázaro, Socorro Montoya, Martha Morán, Karla Ontiveros, and María Pini. For more information about the Master's program, visit: <http://www.csusm.edu/spanish/Masters.htm>

During the 2004-2005 academic year we had 26 students graduate with a BA in Spanish and 16 graduate with a minor in Spanish.

Graduate Student News

The WLHL department is very proud of its magnificent line-up of **Graduate Students**:

Amelia Cavallini, Jessi Colwell (admission deferred to Fall 2006), Oscar de la Cruz, Edgar García, Esperanza García-Navarro, Harlen Laguna (admission deferred to Fall 2006), Jesús Miguel-Saldaña, Alejandra Onofre de Seifert, Edith Pineda, Cindy Pinhal, Tiffany Sievert, Wendy Smith, Marya Toledo, Olivia Vargas, Gonzalo Zúñiga,

and **Teaching Associates**:

Amelia Cavallini (Costa Rica), Edgar García (México), Esperanza García-Navarro (México), Jesús Miguel Saldaña (Spain), Alejandra Onofre de Seifer (México), Cindy

Pinhal (France), Tiffany Sievert (US), Marya Toledo (US-Chile) and Gonzalo Zúñiga (Costa Rica).

Marya Toledo was unanimously elected as Graduate Student Representative.

Esperanza and Jesús advanced to candidacy and will be taking their exams this Spring.

Jesús was nominated by Dr. Rolle-Rissetto for the Graduate Dean's Award

Last Fall Jesús and Cindy also presented their joint papers with Prof. Muñoz Sánchez at the Hispanic Linguistic Symposium, Penn State University. Both students were awarded grants from CSUSM's Graduate Studies division to support their travel to this prestigious conference.



From left to right: Cindy Pinhal, Jesús Miguel Saldaña and Prof. Muñoz Sánchez





Study Abroad

The WLHL Department continues in Summer 2006 with its two successful programs to study Spanish abroad. Students may choose between study in **Valladolid, Spain** (May 29-June 23) and **Cuernavaca, Mexico** (July 24-August 18). Classes will be offered in beginning, intermediate, and advanced Spanish. The Cuernavaca program also offers an optional children's program – so bring the family! These programs are open to CSUSM students, alumni, and others. For more information, contact Prof. Francisco Martin, (760) 750-4179.



Our students visited the Universidad Autónoma de Baja California in Spring 2005

Los idiomas y su importancia en el proceso de globalización por Prof. Rodriguez Rubio

En esta época de cambios constantes en que las distancias se han acortado, las comunicaciones se han acelerado y los cambios tecnológicos están al orden del día, se observa dentro de estos procesos constantes que las comunicaciones representan un acceso al mundo de los negocios y de las transacciones entre países. [...]

La adquisición del idioma sirve para cuatro distintos papeles en el contexto de la globalización. Es importante para recabar información y realizar esfuerzos de evaluación. En lugar de depender de las opiniones de otros, el administrador es capaz de ver y escuchar personalmente lo que sucede. Las personas están mucho más cómodas hablando su propio idioma, y esto debe de considerarse como una ventaja. La mejor información sobre un mercado, se reúne siendo parte de él, en lugar de observarlo desde afuera. Segundo, el idioma proporciona acceso a la sociedad local. Aunque en algunos casos el inglés puede ser hablado en muchas partes, e incluso ser el idioma oficial de la compañía, hablar el idioma local marca una diferencia sustancial. La aptitud de poseer el idioma es cada vez más importante en la comunicación de la compañía, ya sea dentro de la familia corporativa o con los miembros del canal. Imaginémosnos las dificultades encontradas por el administrador de una compañía local que debe comunicarse con los empleados mediante un intérprete. El idioma proporciona más que una capacidad de comunicación. Va más allá de una comunicación mecánica, a la interpretación de los contextos. El dominio que tiene un administrador del idioma o idiomas nacionales en un mercado, debe ser mayor que el simple reconocimiento de la palabra.

For the full text of this contribution, see the World Languages web page.

Japanese Language Exchange

19 Japanese students will be visiting the Japanese 102 class on Feb. 22. They will be on campus from Feb. 20 to March 6, so we are planning to have a Japanese Table with them on Wednesdays 12:00 - 1:00 at the Dome, as well. Anybody interested in meeting the Japanese students or interested in Japanese language or culture are welcome to join us.

A Woman's Place ...

Dr. Redela presented at the National Association of Hispanic and Latino Studies Annual Conference in Baton Rouge, LA her paper titled: "A Woman's Place is in the Home: Configurations of Domesticity and Female Sexuality in the Short Fiction of Rosario Ferré and Ana Lydia Vega"

“Jewish Echoes from Sepharad”

Last Fall, Prof. Martin gave the opening pre-concert lecture at the Copley Symphony Hall to provide the historical background for understanding the Sephardic Music performance that followed: *Ayre* by Osvaldo Golijov. His introduction began as follows:

“Hebrews, as historical tradition would have it, appeared in Hispania, the land they named Sepharad and that we now call Spain, in the first centuries of the Christian era. In the Council of Elvia, convened in 305-306 A.D. in Southern Spain, they were the target of a series of restrictions pertaining to their relations with Christians. They would be the object of all types of regulations, as well, in the famous subsequent Councils of Toledo, the urban center of Spain which they originally gave the name *Toledoth*—as one tradition would have it—which, dispersed as they were throughout the world after Nabuchadnezzar’s destruction of Jerusalem in the sixth century B.C., would mean “City of the Generations,” referring to the members of the twelve tribes of Israel by whom it was populated. Not the most felicitous way for the Jewish people to make their appearance on the stage of the history of their otherwise beloved Sepharad!”

Haiku Contest

MiraCosta College Japanese Program will run a Spring 2006 Haiku Contest. With a grant from NCHEA, the contest is expanded to CSU San Marcos and Palomar College this year, and they are asking for submissions from the three institutions in North County.

Up to three haiku poems per person may be submitted. Haiku poems can be in any language, but submissions in languages other than English require an attached English translation. Cash prizes will be awarded to winning poets on Wednesday April 5 at MiraCosta College's "Japanese Spring Festival". More details will be available soon, but if you are interested, please send your poem (s) to Mikiko Imamura-Seyller (seyl@csusm.edu) by March 15.

Some of the entries will be displayed at the CSUSM International Fair on April 6.

In memoriam: Dr. Kevin Igasaki

The WLHL Department mourns the loss of Dr. Kevin Igasaki, who first came to Cal State San Marcos in 1996. He served as CSUSM's first Director of the Language Learning Center, and also had the role of campus foreign language proficiency assessor. He received a Ph.D. from USD in Spring 2005. Dr. Kevin Igasaki passed away on August 10 2005. He will be missed by all.



Department Activities

Visit to the Universidad Autónoma de Baja California. In Spring 2005, approximately 50 students, faculty, and staff from CSUSM took a bus to the Tijuana campus of the UABC. Participants spent the day attending classes at the university, meeting students and faculty, and enjoying seeing points of interest around the city. One highlight was a guided tour of a Bimbo factory, which produces baked goods. Students and faculty from the UABC made a reciprocal visit to CSUSM in Fall 2005, and shared their culture by setting up Day of the Dead altars.

2005 marked the **celebration of the 400th Anniversary of the publication of Don Quijote.** Conferences, performances, and other related events were held throughout the world to commemorate this literary masterpiece by Miguel de Cervantes. The WLHL Department at CSUSM did our part by offering a guided reading group, a film screening and a lecture by Prof. Francisco Martín.

BLACK MAGIC IN CUBA TODAY: Spanish and African Ritual Tongues in Contemporary Cuba was the topic of a lecture given at CSUSM in February 2006. Distinguished Visiting Professor Armin Schwegler, of UC Irvine, enthralled the audience with his presentation on an African language he “discovered,” still alive today in Cuba.

The World Languages **Film and Lecture Series** was kicked off this Spring by a screening of *Todo sobre mi madre* (Spain) and *No-where in Africa* (Germany). Upcoming films in the series are:

María Full of Grace (USA/Colombia) 3/22/06 5:30 ACD 205

Rhapsody in August (Japan) 4/10/06 6:30 ACD 102

L’auberge espagnole (France) 4/20/06 6:30 ACD 102

German Club hosts talk by Holocaust Survivor. On March 15 at 5:30 in ACD 102 the German Club is proud to host author and holocaust survivor David Faber. Mr. Faber will be speaking about his experiences as a Polish Jew during the Second World War. Mr. Faber survived nine concentration camps between the ages of 13-18. His memoir, *Because of Romek* will be available for sale at a special educational price for members of the campus community. Friends of the World Languages Department are invited and encouraged to attend. Admission is free. [Demographic realities mean that our opportunity to hear first-hand accounts like these are rapidly fading]

International Fair The German club will once again be giving away Bratwurst at the CSUSM International Fair on Thursday, April 6. There will also be informative displays on cultures of the German-speaking countries. The German club has participated in the fair since its inception. Last year The Pride reported that the German Club’s booth was the most popular at the fair. Visit the German Club’s website for photos of last year’s event: <http://www.csusm.edu/germanclub/>

For the last few years, the Japanese Club has offered Udon Noodles at the international fairs. We have not finalized our plan for this year, but if you can help us with running the Japanese booth at the event, please contact a Japanese Club officer. (hamad001@csusm.edu or yu011@csusm.edu).

Career Night

Over 45 students and alumni attended a career night in Fall 2005, to learn about job opportunities for graduates with proficiency in a second language. Speakers included representatives from the FBI, the Peace Corps, CSUSM’s Career Center, and a panel of successful CSUSM WLHL grads. Many thanks to our enthusiastic alumni panel: Kathleen Sheahan, Patricia Strate, Cheryl Ennis, Martha Velasco, María Laura Carlsson, Karen Saffian-Jimenez, Jim Clark, Razia Rajah, Jennifer Rasmussen, and Amelia Cavallini!

Keep in touch

If you have moved or changed positions recently, earned a degree or have other news you would like to share, please send the information to Prof. Muñoz Sánchez via email (amunoz@csusm.edu), or by regular mail to Oneita Billings at our departmental address.

Advertising Rates

Contact Prof. Muñoz Sánchez (amunoz@csusm.edu) for information on advertising in an upcoming WLHL newsletter.

Make a donation

Your support for the expansion of our program is vital! If you would like to make a donation to the World Languages and Hispanic Literatures Department please fill out the form below.

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