

Say There

Modern Languages Alumni Newsletter

FALL QUARTER 1988 ISSUE 15

REPORT FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Dear Alumni,

Warm greetings to all of you from your friends in the Department of Modern Languages. We hope you are having a pleasant and successful year.

This has been a good year for the department. We received an award from the Ohio Foreign Language Association as the Outstanding College Program in Ohio for 1988 (see related story in Department News). The OFLA also recognized Lois Vines as the Outstanding College Teacher in Ohio for 1988, and she became the seventh faculty member in our department to receive the Dean's Outstanding Teacher Award. Other activities and accomplishments include the continuation of our one-quarter academic programs in Austria, France, and Mexico (our first summer program in Quito, Ecuador is being planned for 1989); performances of Gerhart Hauptmann's play Der Biberpelz; a dramatic reading of Jorge Manrique's Coplas a la muerte de su padre; presentations at state, regional, national, and international conferences; appointments and elections of several faculty members to major professional offices; outreach events (Language Fair, Language Camp, meetings of the Ohio Valley Foreign Language Alliance); co-sponsored public lectures by several distinguished visitors, including Adolfo Perez Esquivel, an Argentine human rights activist who received the 1980 Nobel Peace Prize.

Please complete the attached questionnaire and return it in the envelope that is provided. We are very interested in staying in touch with our graduates. We would like to know your candid appraisal of our various offerings, and it will also be helpful to learn whether your foreign-language skill plays a role in your work. Having recently developed a departmental mission statement in light of the university's Education Plan II, Toward the Third Century, we want to build on

our strengths while considering programmatic changes if any seem warranted. We appreciate your taking the time to share your thoughts with us. (Let me know if you wish to have a copy of our mission statement.)

Finally, I would like to encourage you to support the Annual Roll Call for Excellence of the College of Arts and Sciences. You may direct your gift to a specific department or to the fund for college-wide projects. My colleagues and I are most grateful for your past support. Donations help our department address a number of needs, including scholarships based on merit, instructional supplies, guest lectures, student-faculty gatherings, and travel for professional development. We hope you will participate in this year's Roll Call.

Sincerely,


Richard Danner
Professor and Chair

DEPARTMENT NEWS

The Department of Modern Languages has been named Outstanding College Program in Ohio for 1988 by the Ohio Foreign Language Association.

Barbara Snyder, OFLA Awards Committee Chair, said in a letter to the department, "On behalf of the Ohio Foreign Language Association, it gives me great pleasure to congratulate you on winning the 1988 OFLA Program Award for Post-Secondary Level....Members of these departments do far more than what might normally be expected of professionals in order to provide an outstanding program of foreign language services for students."

She went on to say, "Your department has a good staff that is willing to go beyond what might normally be expected of a faculty member in order to help university, high school, and elementary foreign language students and also other foreign language educators. The language camps and language fairs are legendary. The Ohio Valley Foreign Language Alliance provides professional support for previously isolated teachers in the rural southeastern part of the state. You have provided workshops for French and Spanish teachers. Finally, your department at Ohio University has an exemplary and innovative program, especially noted for journalism and communication. Additionally, the media technology in the language laboratory at Ohio University and its contributions to the language program are well known."

In closing, Snyder said, "The members of the Awards Committee...were impressed with the quantity and quality of your contributions to the profession. We salute your accomplishments and congratulate you on this well deserved honor."

Other Department Activities

The department continued to offer a varied curriculum in foreign language, literature, and culture, combining preparation for careers in numerous fields with the goals of liberal education. The study-abroad programs in Austria, France, and Mexico continued to contribute to the university's commitment to international education (total enrollment this year: 72).

A group of Spanish professors and students presented a dramatic reading of Jorge Manrique's Coplas a la muerte de su padre; the Spanish section's folk dance group gave several public performances, and the Spanish honorary society, Signa Delta Pi, inducted a record eighteen new members this year.

Five of the modern language MA students were

accepted into PhD programs (including four at other universities); two German majors were offered teaching assistantships in Austria.

Richard Danner read four papers at professional conferences in 1988: 1) "La Fontaine: Poete pour aujourd'hui": Ohio Foreign Language Association, Cincinnati, in March (one of four AATF Award Sessions: American Association of Teachers of French, Ohio Chapter); 2) "Meaning in the Fables: An Open Reading of 'Les Animaux malades de la peste'": Cincinnati Conference on Romance Languages & Literatures, University of Cincinnati, in May; 3) "Teachers, Pupils and Ironic Structure in the Novels of Mary Gordon": Colloquium on Literature and Film, West Virginia University, Morgantown, in September; 4) "A Reader-Response Approach to Two Fables of La Fontaine": South Atlantic Modern Language Association, Washington, DC, in November. He published an article, "Teaching an Interdisciplinary Course on Irony," in Humanities Education 5.2 (Spring 1988): 15-21.

Danner began serving a five-year term on the Executive Committee of the Modern Language Association's Division on Seventeenth-Century French Literature; he was also elected to a two-year term as President of the Ohio Chapter of the American Association of Teachers of French.

Lois Vines was selected Outstanding College Teacher in Ohio by the Ohio Foreign Language Association. She also received the College of Arts and Sciences Outstanding Teacher Award for 1988. Her publications this year include "The Politics of Language Legislation," French Politics and Society, v. 6, no. 1 (Jan. 1988), pp. 24-27; "Le Monde: Survival of an Independent Press," Contemporary French Civilization, v. 12, no. 1 (Winter/Spring 1988), pp. 64-73; "Francophonie: Political, Economic, and Cultural Goals," Modern and Contemporary France Newsletter, no. 34 (June 1988), pp. 2-5; and "French Media Courses for Journalism and Communications," Modern Technology in Foreign Language Education (Lincolnwood, IL, National Textbook co., 1988), pp. 193-199.

Vines chaired a session on professional development at the March Ohio Foreign Language Association Conference in Cincinnati. She spent five weeks in France last summer preparing materials for her courses on the French media.

1961

Inca (Kayon) Silver (MA '63, Sp,Ital,Fr) lives in Lyndale, FL and is a foreign language department chairperson at Edgewater High School, Orlando, FL.

Sally (Wilson) Crenshaw (Sp) is a Spanish teacher and chair of the foreign language department at Pine Forest High School.

1965

Rita (Hessenthaler) McKenzie (Ger,Fr) is director of Administration, Office of Regulatory Policy, Oversight & Supervision, at the Federal Home Loan System.

1967

Victoria Mosey (Sp,Fr) teaches French in elementary grades 4-6 for the Cleveland Public Schools.

1968

Donna Early (Sp) is president of Providence Personnel Consultants of Cuyahoga Falls. Early formed the company in 1981 after working as a personnel consultant for other companies.

On a national and international level, employers call her seeking job candidates for positions in engineering, accounting, sales and marketing and banking. Early said, "I'm helping somebody make a major decision in their life; it will affect their marriage, their children's lives, and their self-esteem." She was also a panel member for a local TV show which was videotaped in December, 1987, at Falls High. The TV series, called "Forum for Student Success," centered on skills and qualities students must develop to take their places in the world of business.

After college, Early set out with a degree in international relations from Ohio University and the ability to speak Italian, German, French and Spanish. Early's latest venture is to work with high school students to show them career options.

Sharon (Lipstreu) Pressly (Sp,Fr) is development director (fundraising and public relations) at the Vermont Achievement Center, a private school and medical facility for disabled children. Sharon lives in Rutland, VT.

Joyce (Bryant) Carrington (Sp,Fr) lives in Detroit, Michigan and teaches Spanish at the Henry Ford High School in Detroit.

1969

Margery Bridstrup (Rus) is an executive officer of a bank in Frankfurt a/M, West Germany. Her hobby is photographing race-horses.

Marilyn Rodgers (Rus,Ger) is owner of a small business called Church Education Consultant Services in Columbia, SC. Marilyn was a local church educator for 15 years before going into business for herself.

Janie Duncan (Fr) is teaching ESL in Istanbul, Turkey.

1970

Rita Braves (Sp) is a high school Spanish teacher in Cleveland, OH.

Barry Wallis (Ger,Fr,Ital,Mandarin) is Vice President of Product Development, which provides training for computer users.

Linda (Stuckey) Holden (Fr,Sp) is a part-time ESL instructor at College of Lake Co., a local community college.

Mary (Rinehart) Unkel (Fr,Rus) is Vice President of Promotion Marketing Services, Inc., a totally owned subsidiary of Ogilvy and Matner Advertising Agency, New York. Mary is married to **Robert Unkel** (OU '70) who is a marketing manager with the Keyes Fibre Co. in Stamford, CT.

Mary and Robert are the parents of a 17-year-old daughter, Kristy.

1971

Ana (Aspras) Steele (Rus,Sp,Chin) is an instructor at the University of Colorado in the department of French and Italian. Ana is a full-time faculty member in Italian and is writing her dissertation while in residence at CU, Boulder, from Johns Hopkins University in 20th-Century Italian literature.

Cheri (Short) Wiseman (Fr) is a wife, mother, and part-time ESL instructor. Cheri taught French for a year at Berne Union High School before marrying her high school sweetheart, Mike Wiseman, a Captain in the Army. They live in Bad Kissingen, Germany where their first daughter, Abigail, was born. Cheri's second child was born in late August.

Sheila Miller-Erazo (Sp) is working for the Department of the Air Force as a computer security specialist. Sheila and her husband, **Jorge** (OU '85, EE) have just recently returned from Quito, Ecuador where she taught ESL in a bilingual high school and taught English at the international company of 3M.

Johanna Bungartz (MA '86, Fr) has entered the PhD program in French at Michigan State University. Johanna was also married this summer to Scott Needham.

1986

Aaron Harvey (Fr) is currently working at American Management Systems in Arlington, Va. He is being transferred to Montreal in 1989 and then hopes to return to graduate school in the fall to study cognitive science.

1987

Amy Wolfe (Ger) works as a researcher in forensic chemistry for the Department of Drug Enforcement in Washington, DC. Amy is applying for a post in Wiesbaden, West Germany.

1988

Lorin Green (Ger) is living in Roswell, GA.

Cathy Jeremiah (Fr) is teaching French at Licking Valley High School for a year while Pat Schramm completes an M.A. in French at Ohio University.

THIS ISSUE OF "SAY THERE" WAS COMPILED
AND PREPARED BY RUTH SAVAGE AND
C. P. RICHARDSON

Please be sure to contact us with any news not reported here in "SAY THERE" or with any news incorrectly or incompletely reported. We'd be more than happy to help reunite alums by disclosing addresses of anyone who has corresponded with us. Also, if you haven't sent us an ALUM REPORT, please do so and tell us what you're doing. We'd all love to hear from you!

KEEP IN TOUCH!

NAME _____
LAST FIRST MAIDEN DEGREE (Year)

ADDRESS _____
Street City State Zip Code

LANGUAGE(S) STUDIED AT OU _____

PLEASE LIST ANY CURRENT NEWS ABOUT YOURSELF FOR "SAY THERE."

If you know the addresses of any other alums or if you know any news that might be of interest to our alums, please give that information in the space below and we will publish it in the next issue:

We have extra copies of all the earlier issues of "SAY THERE." If you would like to receive a copy of ones you missed, just ask for them:

Issue 1 (Jan-Feb '76) - Issue 2 (Mar-Apr '76) - Issue 3 (Fall '76) - Issue 4 (Fall '77) -
Issue 5 (Fall '78) - Issue 6 (Fall '79) - Issue 7 (Fall '80) - Issue 8 (Fall '81) - Issue
9 (Fall '82) - Issue 10 (Fall '83) - Issue 11 (Fall '84) - Issue 12 (Fall '85) - Issue 13
(Fall '86) - Issue 14 (Fall '87)

THIS QUESTIONNAIRE SHOULD BE RETURNED TO: C. P. RICHARDSON
LANGUAGE LABORATORY
ELLIS HALL-OHIO UNIVERSITY
ATHENS, OH 45701-2979

Would you like information on:

Language Camp _____

Language Fair _____

OHIO UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF MODERN LANGUAGES

ALUMNI QUESTIONNAIRE (DECEMBER 1988)

Please return this questionnaire by 1 February 1989, in the attached envelope, to the Department of Modern Languages, Ohio University, Athens, OH 45701-2979. Thank you.

Your name (optional): _____

Degree(s) from OU (specify language; indicate double majors):

BA ____ Year ____ Major(s) _____

MA ____ Year ____ Major(s) _____

PhD ____ Year ____ Major(s) _____

If you earned a higher degree after leaving OU, indicate the degree, the school that granted it, and the area of specialization.

Current employment (describe your job in a sentence or two):

Is foreign-language competence useful in your work? Yes ____ No ____
If so, which FL skills are helpful to you professionally (reading, speaking, listening comprehension, writing)?

What aspects of your study of foreign languages at OU were most valuable?

What aspects of your study of foreign languages at OU were least valuable?

If you participated in one or more of our study-abroad programs, in what way(s) has the experience been of value to you?

Other comments (please continue on the back if necessary):