

DEPARTMENT HONORED WITH THREE TEACHING AWARDS

During the academic year 2003-2004, three faculty members in the Department of Modern Languages won prestigious teaching awards. Barbara Reichenbach, instructor in Spanish and teaching methodology, was selected by the Ohio Foreign Language Association to receive the Ed Allen Award for Outstanding College Foreign Language

Instructor. Among her many accomplishments, her role in training and inspiring students to become language teachers impressed the state selection committee. In addition to teaching her university-level courses, Reichenbach helped initiate and supervises the teaching of foreign languages in local public elementary schools, where college students share their language skills with young children. An average of 60 Ohio University students participate in the program each quarter.

Reichenbach advises students who are earning licensure in education and makes contacts for their student-teaching experience. A founding member of the Ohio Valley Foreign Language Alliance, she serves as a link between the university and teachers in the public schools in Southeastern Ohio.

Associate Professor of Spanish Betsy Partyka was selected by the College of Arts and Sciences as the recipient of the 2004 Jeanette G. Grasselli Brown Faculty Teaching Award in the Humanities. Partyka was praised for her extraordinary devotion to teaching and mentoring. Several of her undergraduate tutorial students have received major awards, including three National Security Education Program Fellowships, and she has helped students prepare applications for the nationally competitive

Fulbright Fellowships. Her mentoring and teaching in the Honors Tutorial Program in Spanish have been an invaluable asset. At the graduate level, Partyka helps students prepare papers to present at the annual Latin American Literature and Culture conference held in Columbus.

Encouraging students to be advocates for the profession, Partyka reaches out to the community through her volunteer work teaching Spanish in the public elementary schools.

The 2004 Arts and Sciences Dean's Outstanding Teacher Award went to Christopher Coski, Assistant Professor of French. Coski's outstanding course evaluations from students, leadership in two study abroad programs (2002 and 2003), innovations in curriculum development, and engagement in student advising and activities contributed to his selection for the

award. Recurring comments on student evaluations mention Coski's high standards and his encouraging students toward "independent thinking." Coski is the faculty advisor for the French Honor Society, Phi Sigma Iota, and has designed web pages for the honorary as well as for the study abroad program. As chair of the Alumni Relations and Department Outreach Committee, he has organized a letter-writing project congratulating high-school teachers whose well-trained students continue their language studies at the university level.

The Department of Modern Languages is proud of this year's award recipients and their contributions to the tradition of outstanding teaching at Ohio University.



Betsy Partyka, Chris Coski and Barbara Reichenbach

Letter from the Chair

Greetings Friends and Colleagues!

This is obviously a year of new beginnings, and our department stands ready to play an important role and make a positive contribution as we start our next century. The importance of studying languages and cultures has never been more evident. Our new University President, Roderick McDavis, has reiterated the importance of internationalizing the curriculum. The Republican and Democratic candidates for president of the United States have both campaigned in Spanish and one of the candidate's spouses, Teresa Heinz Kerry, addressed the Democratic National Convention in five languages. The American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages has named 2005 "The Year of Languages" and will launch a series of events in November at its conference. The Central States conference will be in Columbus next March and we are called to



"Celebrate...Educate...Communicate...The Power of Language Learning!" Members of our department, and, no doubt, many of our alumni and friends will be playing active roles in all of these initiatives.

We are continuing to raise the visibility of the department in the university, in the region, and beyond, by pursuing innovative and creative programs that give our students and faculty the opportunity to go beyond the traditional boundaries. Talented first-year students are being recruited for the Learning Portfolio Project (LPP). The LPP pairs them with a faculty mentor who works with them throughout their undergraduate career and helps them develop an ongoing interdisciplinary research project. The "one-hour foreign language option" enables students who are proficient in a language to do research in that language with the mentorship of our faculty as a complement to the content material offered in another department, such as history. The Foreign Language in the Elementary School (FLES) program allows advanced students of French or Spanish to bring language instruction to elementary students in the area. The number of our students who participate and the number of elementary students served (more than 1350) continue to increase every year. Always one of our most important contributions, our study abroad programs continue to be strong. We have, in fact, initiated two new programs this past year with summer offerings in Pamplona, Spain and Quebec City, Canada. There are more exciting programs on the near horizon!

Three members of our teaching staff won major awards this past year. I am very proud to announce that Barbara Reichenbach, who directs our FLES program and advises the majority of our students interested in a teaching career, was named the Outstanding College Instructor by the Ohio Foreign Language Association. Chris Coski, an Assistant Professor of French, received the very competitive Dean's Outstanding Teaching Award, and Betsy Partyka, Associate Professor of Spanish, won the equally distinguished Jeanette Grasselli Brown Teaching Award. This makes four years in a row that the awardee for the Jeanette Grasselli Brown Faculty Teaching Award has come from our department! In the area of research, the number of articles written by our faculty in professional journals and the number of presentations at major conferences continue to increase. Emilia Marks's project "Identity and Linguistic Variation of Itinerant Societies" was funded by the Ohio University Research Committee, and she will continue to refine her study in Spain this academic year. Daniel Torres, who has won international prizes for both his creative writing and his literary criticism, is another success story; he was promoted to full professor at the end of the last academic year. Many others in the department have made extraordinary contributions to the profession this year, as you will see in the faculty profiles.

Our students continue to distinguish themselves. One of our Spanish majors won a grant from the Provost's Undergraduate Research Fund. There were two Fulbright winners to Germany and one alternate, and one Fulbright to Spain. A first-year student in German was one of only 25 students nationally to win a full scholarship to attend the Summer University at the Freie Universitaet Berlin (FUBiS). A French major who also majors in Journalism won the prestigious Wilhelm Internship Scholarship and will be working for the Associated Press bureau in Amsterdam. A second-year student in French won the Sara Ullman Memorial internship with Amnesty International and worked in Washington, D.C.

These are some of the reasons that I look back in pride and forward with optimism as I think about the positive contributions of the Department of Modern Languages. We would love to share our activities with you in person, so please do visit us in Gordy Hall, sit in on classes, and engage in conversation. If you are not able to visit us in person, we invite you to contact us by e-mail or by returning the page xv of this newsletter. We look forward to sharing with you, our friends, The Year of Languages!

Study Abroad

Ecuador (Director, Anne Porter)

There were 19 students in the Cuenca, Ecuador program in Spring 2004 from a variety of majors, with most taking classes at the 300 and 400 levels. Students lived one per family within walking distance of the Center for Interamerican Studies where classes are held. In addition to lectures and museum visits, a number of excursions helped acquaint the students with most of this small but very diverse country. Most students also spent time in a service project painting classrooms and planting a garden at a school for Special Education.

Mérida, Mexico (Co-Directors, David Burton and Daniel Torres)

In Winter Quarter 2004 the OUMayab celebrated twenty-five years in Mérida. Forty-four undergraduate students participated, along with Megan Roof and Julian Turner who served as the graduate TAs. The program continues under the codirection of Profs. David Burton and Daniel Torres, who have directed for fourteen and twelve years respectively. Drs. B. and T find it a pleasurable experience not only because they work together closely, but also because "we observe that our students do indeed learn Spanish and Latin American literature from within the culture, and that they experience language as a meaningful activity beyond the classroom." Six students held internships. As part of the official celebrations in March, Connie Perdreau and Fred Toner spent a week celebrating with us and also conducting a five-year review. Former student participant Todd Fry ('97 and '98) presented a three-day exhibit of his photos in "Retratos de Yucatán" (Portraits of Yucatan) at the Museo de Arte Contemporáneo Ateneo de Yucatán (MACAY) in downtown Mérida. The program has two web pages. One can be reached from the department's home page or directly at: www.oumayab.com.

Moscow, Russia (Director, Karen Evans-Romaine)

In spring 2004 Dr. Evans-Romaine took five OU students and two students from Ohio State University to Moscow on the sixth Ohio University Spring Quarter in Moscow Program. Students studied Russian language, literature, and culture at the Kitaigorodskaya School on the campus of Moscow State University, lived with Russian families, and went to the Bolshoi Theater and the Moscow Conservatory, museums in and around Moscow, the ancient towns of Vladimir and Suzdal, and took a three-day trip to St. Petersburg in May. They came back with lots of photos, post-cards, souvenirs, and much better Russian!

Pamplona, Spain (Director, Nelson Hippolyte)

Since 1998, the Pamplona, Spain program has attracted an amazing number of students interested not only in intermediate- and advanced- level Spanish studies, but also in literature, linguistics, Spanish film, and politics. Participants choose to stay one, two or three quarters. Each student lives with a Spanish host family and attends classes on the campus of the Universidad Pública de Navarra. The students become well-acquainted with the region's diverse cultural and historical patrimony on different weekend excursions to Bilbao, San Sebastián, Burgos, Zaragoza among other important cities. Also, with the dual aim of giving something back to their host city, all students participate in community service activities.

Quebec City, Canada (Director, Christophe Corbin)

In July 2004, twelve students had the chance to participate in our first Summer Study Abroad Program at Université Laval in Quebec City and to mingle with 850 other students of about 50 different nationalities. In addition to their classroom experiences, students had the opportunity to engage in social and cultural activities (which among many others included visits to local museums, cooking classes, singing, and basketball) every afternoon under the guidance of French-speaking leaders. Weekend excursions included whale watching on the Saint Lawrence River, water rafting and a visit to nearby Ile d'Orléans, where students tasted local products, such as cider, and to have lunch in one of the finest restaurants on the island. The students enjoyed Quebec's legendary hospitality and the many activities the city has to offer. Their only complaint was that five weeks is not long enough! Information about the program can be found at: <http://www.ohio.edu/modlang/french/frenchabroad.cfm>

Salzburg, Austria (Director, Nikhil Sathe, assisted by Andrea Herzog)

Twenty students participated in this year's program in Austria, where major events, such as the national presidential election and the expansion of the European Union, provided interesting topics for discussion. On the excursions to Hallstatt and Hallein students learned about the role of the salt trade in Austrian history. In Munich, Germany we visited a museum devoted to the early twentieth-century "Blue Rider" school and later attended a successful soccer match for FC Bayern München, the team everyone loves to hate. On our visit to Cologne, students met their pen pals, who treated us to a tour of the city and its famous Gothic cathedral. This year we added an excursion to Maria Alm, a ski resort near Salzburg, where we took a cable-car ride up the slopes and visited a tourism-oriented high school, a monumental baroque church, and an eco-friendly alpine farm. This year's program marked our 25th year in the Heffterhof, which was celebrated with an anniversary party (see Barry Thomas' note in this issue). The 2005 program will be directed by Maïke Ahrends.

Tours, France (Director, Christophe Corbin, assisted by Kate Burin)

Last Spring, 16 students participated in our Study Abroad Program in Tours, France. For 10 weeks, students took classes at the Institut de Touraine, and enjoyed the bustling café and restaurant scene. On weekends they visited nearby castles and vineyards, and traveled on their own to various parts of France as well as to neighboring countries. As part of the excursions included in the program, the group spent a weekend in Paris in a seventeenth-century manor, one in Saint-Malo and in Mont Saint-Michel, and one in a castle close to Poitiers and at La Rochelle on the Atlantic Coast. All the students greatly benefited from this now classic immersion program. Information about the program can be found at : <http://www.ohio.edu/modlang/french/frenchabroad.cfm>

Faculty News

Karen Evans-Romaine I completed my first summer as director of the Middlebury Russian School. In summer 2004 three Ohio University students were among the 135 students at the Russian School: Michael Brown (MA 2004), now a language teacher in the Cleveland Public Schools; Sarah Lowry (BA 2004), now a graduate student at the Ohio State University Slavic Department; and Joseph Zerovnik, a senior political science and Russian major at Ohio University.

In fall 2004 I am beginning work on the fourth edition of the two-volume Russian textbook *Golosa*, together with Richard Robin and Galina Shatalina of George Washington University. In addition, my article on Boris Pasternak will appear this year in the *Dictionary of Literary Biography*.

Yolande Helm I had a wonderful past year. I traveled to Belgium where I presented a paper at the International Council of Francophone Studies on Sylvie Germain and myths in her novels. I also submitted an article on the same author, "Métamorphoses of the body and subjectivity in L'Enfant Méduse" and it was accepted. I traveled to Martinique in the Spring on a recon trip in order to establish a new study abroad program. I am taking 10 students to Martinique: 2 graduates and 8 undergraduates. We are leaving on November 26 and returning on December 20, 2004. I am looking forward to it; it should be a great cultural, linguistic, and intellectual experience, not to mention the beautiful surroundings! While I was there, I interviewed the well-known Francophone Martinican writer Suzanne Dracius. The students and I will meet Suzanne Dracius and Aimé Césaire, the great poet (and former mayor of Fort-de-France) of "La Négritude". My students are excited since they will read the texts and then meet the authors! What an exciting year for me as well. Best to all!

Mary Jane Kelley During the past year I continued work on my study of the thirteenth-century Spanish author

Gonzalo de Berceo, and published two studies: one appeared in *Speculum* in January and the other is due to appear in *Hispanic Review* in the spring. On the teaching front, I assumed directorship of the second-year Spanish program and am working with Carole Cloutier, the director of the first-year program, to insure quality and consistency throughout the six quarters of beginning and intermediate Spanish.

Amado Lascar After returning from the '03 School of Criticism & Theory at Cornell, I was invited by the Honors Tutorial College Read Dorm to speak on the "Other September 11 [Chile 1973]" and by the International Students Organization in January to the panel "Is Globalization Americanization?" I presented "La generación del silencio" at SUNY in fall (Yale UP 2005). As a member of the international forum on anti-racist pedagogy and post-positivist realism, FMS (the Future of Minority Studies), I attended the fall conference at Madison and presented "Zapatista Theory: a Path in the Jungle or a Path in Anti-NeoLiberal Resistance" at Cornell in June (*Revista Alpha*, U Austral de Chile). During Spring leave I guest-lectured for a Chicano Studies course and became a founding member of the Indigenous Theory group at UCSB. I also co-authored "The Recuperation of the Word" (*Macmillan Encyclopedia of Religion* 2nd ed.), with Amanda Harris. My publications in press include *La enorme trompa del C5* (Piel de Leopardo, Chile), from which excerpts appear in www.escriitores.cl/antologia and the critical introduction to LOM's historical edition of Marilúan. On August 23 in Chicago my daughter Hannah Manuela was born.

Nikhil Sathe After two years as a visiting instructor of German, I am delighted to end my "visit" and join the faculty in the Department of Modern Languages. This past year I had a very exciting and fulfilling experience as the director of the study abroad program in Salzburg, a city

where I was once a study abroad participant and where I worked as an English teacher. I also presented papers on novels by Robert Menasse and Uwe Timm and have begun serving as the "Austria" editor for the CAPL project (Culturally Authentic Pictorial Lexicon), an online collection of digital images.

Daniel Torres This year I was promoted to full professor. I traveled in March to the University of Puerto Rico, my Alma Mater, where I participated on a forum on Baroque Studies. I also traveled this summer to Poitiers, France to present "Los raros placeres" [Queer Pleasures] at the XXXV Conference of the International Institute of Ibero-American Literature. This October I presented "Preocupaciones de fin de siglo en la poesía reciente de José Emilio Pacheco" [End of the Century Concerns in Recent Poetry by José Emilio Pacheco] at the Monterrey Book Fair in Mexico. I authored two articles: "Escribir para Carmen" [Writing for Carmen] in *En rojo* (April 22-28, 2004): 18-19 and "De mujer a mujer: La poesía de Magali Alabau" [From Woman to Woman: The Poetry of Magali Alabau] in *Apuntes históricos* 5 (2004): 6-11. The Cuarto Propio press in Santiago, Chile, accepted my manuscript on gay Latin American poetry, to be published next year.

Lois Vines This year I have enjoyed working with students participating in the Language Learning Portfolio Project and helping a senior prepare her application for a Fulbright Fellowship. My research is focusing on film, with three articles out and a book in progress. The book translation project that Marie-Claire Wrage and I have been working on, *A POW's Memoir of the First World War*, came out in May. I was pleased to learn recently that my book *Valéry and Poe* (NYU Press) has been translated into Japanese and published in a beautiful edition.

Department Offers New Summer Programs in Spain and Quebec

The summer of 2004 brought the inauguration of Ohio University's summer in Pamplona study abroad program. Pamplona was the obvious city to host an OU summer program because director Nelson Hippolyte could build on the infrastructure of our year-long Pamplona program. Nine students enrolled for twelve credits each this first summer, and the program's success promises increased enrollment for the future. On the other hand, Hippolyte observes, small numbers offered students opportunities a larger program would have to forego, such as this year's housing arrangements, which allowed each student to live alone with his or her host family. Although course work spans six



Nelson Hippolyte (left) and Christophe Corbin

weeks from late June to the end of July, students do not attend class during the festival of Pamplona's patron saint, San Fermin, which begins, as we all know from the famous song, on July 7. Instead, once the festival gets underway, program participants spend several days attending public events in the city, including the renowned running of the bulls each morning, concerts each evening, and parades and performances of regional music and dance during the days. Many lucky students' host families were able to acquire hard-to-come-by tickets to an afternoon bullfight, where the best bullfighters in Spain performed. During the second part of the eight-day festival, the program left the party behind and traveled north, first to Bilbao, where students visited art museums, including the Guggenheim; took in the natural beauty of the region; and crossed the border to Biarritz, France. The morning of July 15, to the lingering strains of the "Ay, de mi," the traditional community sing along at midnight on July 14 bemoaning another end to the San Fermines,

Pamplona residents went back to work, and our students cheerfully returned to class.

Christophe Corbin, current director of the study abroad program in Tours, became the first director of the department-sponsored summer program in Quebec City. Students at all levels of French who have a solid academic background and are highly motivated are accepted into the five-week program that includes intensive classes and many cultural activities. The host institution, Laval University, tests students when they arrive and places them at the appropriate levels of language instruction. With classes held in the morning five days a week, students are encouraged to participate in activities that range from singing to sports and include excursions to the surrounding region in the afternoon and on weekends. Corbin, a native of France, enjoyed his first experience in Quebec and looks forward to taking a second group this summer. "The program is great," he commented. "I enjoyed the Quebec experience along with the students and can't wait to go back."

In the Spirit of the Season

Modern Languages has enjoyed festive holiday traditions since Jan Harmon became Departmental Administrator in 1999. On Friday before Halloween, faculty, teaching assistants, and staff are invited to participate in a costume competition with the three top winners receiving a prize and having their photos displayed on our web site <http://lrc-web.modlang.ohiou.edu/lrc/halloween04/source/15.html>. This year's first-place winner is the "Wizard of Oz" group, including Dorothy, Virginia Hojas (Spanish instructor), the Wicked Witch of the West, Riccardo Camera (Italian instructor), Lion, Ximena Gonzales (Spanish TA), Tin Man, Arantxa Alegre (Spanish Instructor), and Scarecrow, Ana Zapata (Spanish TA). On the Friday before Easter, Harmon and her helpers hide one plastic Easter egg in each office with a prize going to the first person to find the treasure. At the end of the day, the question is: "How many Ph.D.s does it take to find one plastic egg?"



Ohio University & the “Heffterhof-Salzburg”: A 25-Year Partnership! 1979-2004

Since 1968 Ohio University has offered a SA program in Salzburg. For the last quarter century students have lived and learned in the “Heffterhof,” a traditional training institution associated with the State Chamber for Forestry and Agriculture which has emerged from a recent renovation as a thoroughly modern conference center and hotel.

In recognition of this long and mutually beneficial partnership the center’s director, Bernhard Winding, offered his encouragement and support for a Silver Anniversary celebration. After several weeks of preparation the festivities took place on May 13, 2004. The program featured short presentations by Director Winding, who emphasized the personal and professional benefits of the relationship to both parties; Dr. Barry Thomas (former program director), who gave a brief overview of the program’s history; Dr. Nik Sathe (2004 program director), who described the present activities and achievements; Sigrid Sadler (long-time assistant program director), who offered a potpourri of student anecdotes; Jeanie de Graff-Mayer (US consular agent in Salzburg), Magister Dip.-Ing. Nikolaus Lienbacher (director of the State Chamber for Forestry and Agriculture), and Dr. Monika Kalista (State Secretary for Culture), all of whom praised the value of such international experiences both for the student participants and the host culture.

In recognition of the anniversary, Director Winding was presented with a framed letter from Dean Leslie Flemming (Ohio University College of Arts and Sciences), expressing the university’s appreciation for the valuable opportunities afforded our students through the Heffterhof.

Following the presentation and a short musical program, the approximately 60 guests, who included the 2004 Ohio student participants and several host faculty, moved on to the dining room, where the Heffterhof culinary staff, under the direction of Frau Annemarie Winding, had prepared a magnificent buffet that was almost too beautifully presented to eat--but we did!

With the increasing interest of students in an international experience and with a new generation of faculty directors, the department looks forward to many more years of fruitful cooperation with the Heffterhof.

Nik Sathe: New Tenure-Track German Professor

This fall, the department welcomed Dr. Nikhil Sathe as a new faculty member in German. Sathe has a BA in German and Geography from West Virginia University, an MA in German from Bowling Green State University and a PhD from Ohio State University, where he wrote his dissertation on the tourism industry in postwar Austrian literature. Sathe’s other interests include German film and theatre; he wrote his MA thesis on film, and he has directed and acted in plays both at Bowling Green and OSU. Sathe has studied abroad in Germany, the Netherlands, and Austria and has taught English and American history in Austria as a Fulbright fellow. OU German students benefit greatly from Sathe’s talents as an instructor, as is evident in one student’s comment on a recent course evaluation: “I wish every professor had the enthusiasm, creativity, and innovative teaching methods of Dr. Sathe.”



Nik Sathe

French Professor Ruth Nybakken Retires

Ruth Nybakken, whose career in the department extends back to 1966, took early retirement and will now teach one quarter each academic year. She left O.U. in 1971, returning in 1978 to continue teaching French until her retirement this fall. In 1967-68 Nybakken directed the first year-long O.U.-sponsored program in Tours, France and returned as director of the quarter program in Tours in 1984. Her courses on campus included introduction to literature, twentieth-century novel, and French civilization. This fall Nybakken made a trip to Quebec with a French friend and has had time to pursue her love of music by playing the violin in a local symphony orchestra.

DML Students Successfully Compete for OU and National Awards

Students in the Department of Modern Languages were hugely successful this year in winning a variety of highly competitive scholarships and awards.

Megan Roof (Spanish BA '02, MA '04) is participating this year in the Fulbright US Student Program teaching English in an elementary school in Valladolid, Spain and simultaneously producing a set of video interviews with locals on a variety of contemporary political and social issues.

James Peterson (German BA, German Education BS '04) also won a Fulbright US Student Program award for teaching in Hannover, Germany, where he will be working with an English teacher at a local Gymnasium.

Kathryn Hampton (Spanish HTC '05) received funding from the National Security Education Program, which allowed her to spend the 2003-2004 academic year in Caracas, Venezuela studying the contemporary Venezuelan telenovela. Hampton is back on campus this fall converting that research into her HTC thesis.

Miranda Nixon (Spanish HTC '06) won an Ohio University Provost's Undergraduate Research Fund award for research in Mexico on bilingual education, which will become the focus of her thesis.

Lauren Whitmer (Spanish HTC '05) spent last summer studying Quechua in Peru thanks to an Ohio University Student Enhancement Award. That trip represented a continuation of her research on Peruvian literature, which she began with a 2002-2003 NSEP award for work in Peru.

Double Degree Graduates Win Prestigious Internships

Earning a degree in two colleges requires additional hours and a lot of work. Two students completing degrees in French (Arts and Sciences) and journalism (Communication) have been rewarded for their efforts. Maria Lokshin (BA. Fr; BS journalism '04), who speaks Russian and French in addition to English, received a John R. Wilhelm Foreign Correspondence Internship to work in Amsterdam. Christy Johnson (BA Fr; BS journalism '04) was hired by the French publishing giant Larousse to help prepare the recent edition of the *Concise English-French Dictionary*. Her article about the experience, co-authored with Lois Vines, will appear in the November issue of the *National Bulletin of the American Association of Teachers of French*. Johnson continues to do free-lance work for Larousse while working for a publisher in New York.

Scholarship and Award Recipients

URSULA FEER FARFEL SCHOLARSHIP

Jamie Golden

MARY L. DURNION SCHOLARSHIP

Martha Broom-Barxias

Karen Kell

Lisa Swarbrick

Rebecca Williams

MARY T. NOSS SCHOLARSHIP

Roger Anderson

Elizabeth Emery

Bethany Untied

Emily Wagener

MAXINE McCRORY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Summer Crum

Kate Elias

Jacqueline Patton

Kristin Petrarcca

Ryan Vessler

Lisa Vogt

GERALD T. WILKINSON AWARD

Outstanding Junior French Major

Bethany Untied

GERALD T. WILKINSON AWARD

Outstanding Graduating Seniors in French

Christy Johnson

Kelly O'Reilly

Graduate Awards

OUTSTANDING TEACHING ASSOCIATE IN FRENCH

Jennifer Jahn

OUTSTANDING TEACHING ASSOCIATE IN SPANISH

Jason Busic

Language Honoraries

Spanish: During the Academic Year 2003-2004, the OU chapter of Sigma Delta Pi under the able leadership of Pres. Sarah McCarroll held two initiations. In October, 2003 eighteen students were initiated and in June, 2004 twelve "amantes de la lengua cervantina" were initiated. In May, the following officers were elected: Andrea Hayen (President), Sarah West (VP), Caren Baginski (Secretary), and Denise Martin (Treasurer).

French: Phi Sigma Iota, the French Honor Society, admitted 18 new members at our annual induction ceremony in January. Society members volunteered as French tutors to replace the second-year PACE tutor that was lost, and also took part in both the Street Fair and Around the World in Gordy Hall.

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Alum NEWS

William Crossgrove (BA German 1959) I left O.U. in the spring of 1959 and went to the University of Texas in Austin, where I received my Ph.D. in Germanic Linguistics in 1962. In the fall of 1962 I began teaching at Brown University, retiring last summer after having been on the faculty for 41 years. During my last four years, I served as Associate Dean of the Faculty.

Jacqueline Eyring Bixler (BA, Sp '75), professor of Spanish, has been named Alumni Distinguished Professor at Virginia Tech, where she has been a faculty member since 1980. The award cited her outstanding teaching, innovative approaches, and scholarly work in Latin American theater.

George Gordon Zaffle (BA, Sp and Fr '81) I have been working as a decorative artist/painter since I graduated from O.U. I began my career bicycling around the western U.S., going door-to-door to get jobs painting grand ceilings with three partners. Our art has been featured in major publications. (See my website www.zaffle.com.) I use my languages all the time and go to Europe every year. O.U. languages sent me well on my way.

Linda (Gdovka) Jackson (Journalism BA '97, Fr MA '99) My husband, Glen (MS '98), and I moved back to Athens in July '04. We are more than thrilled to return to Ohio University where he has accepted a tenure-track position in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry. I am currently a PhD

candidate (ABD) in Modern Foreign Languages at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville. Since our relocation to Athens, I have been busy researching and writing my dissertation on *Les liaisons dangereuses*. I am also teaching two French sections in the Department of Modern Languages this fall.

Aaron Kahn (Eng & Sp BA '00) From Athens, I headed overseas to conduct my doctoral studies at the University of Oxford in the United Kingdom. I returned to Athens in August 2004 to take up a Group IV faculty position. I had many wonderful experiences as a student in the Modern Languages Department, and now I am grateful for the opportunity to work alongside the faculty that was so helpful for me.

Alum NEWS

Tarra Scott (BA French and linguistics, '01; SA, Tours) This is my fourth year teaching ESL and language arts at Happy Kids (Yi Tung Yuan) American School in Taipei. I have taught at several levels, from two-year-old children to 5th graders and have held the position of head teacher and assistant to the principal. I have had a great time living in Taiwan and visiting several other countries in Asia. During the next academic year, I hope to be an English teaching assistant in France.

Francesca Mignosa (BA Fr and Int. Studies '02; MA Com and Dev. '04) I'm currently working with KPI Television, an independent film/documentary production company that works in collaboration with numerous cable channels. I am currently on board for a project with Discovery Health.

Mark Gibson (Sp BA '02, MA '04) Mark is pursuing a PhD in Spanish Linguistics at the Universidad Complutense in Madrid, where he moved shortly after receiving his MA

from OU.

Jen Picciano (Br. Jrn. BA '02, Sp) After majoring at Ohio University in Broadcast Journalist, she is working for FOX in Lubbock, Texas. She spent a quarter studying in Pamplona (WQ 2000). She uses Spanish every day!

Elizabeth Kittle (Fr BA '03) Since leaving Ohio University in the spring of 2003, I have embarked on several journeys--around the world and around the state! I spent last school year in Tours, France, studying at the Université François Rabelais through the French Master's program at Bowling Green State University. What an amazing opportunity it was to again travel to France and around Europe! I am now completing the second and final year of the program at the main campus of BGSU. How different graduate work is from undergraduate! I had NO idea. (And how different BG is from Tours.) It's been very stressful, but the challenge is positive, and I'm learning that attitude makes all the difference. Two things are for certain: First, I am so

thankful for my incredible professors in the French department in Athens. The knowledge and resources gained at OU have helped me immensely to succeed in this endeavor. And second, Bowling Green, Ohio is nothing in comparison to the rolling hills and beautiful scenery that I miss so much about OU!

Lindsay Rosbrook (Sp '03) After a brief encounter with the post-graduation real world, I moved to Caracas, Venezuela last spring, where I am currently teaching high-school English. I can be reached at Lindsay_Rosbrook@yahoo.com.

Cody Burkholder (BA Sp '04) Cody has begun the graduate program in Spanish at the University of Kansas in Lawrence.

Thank You for Your Gift!

Gifts to the Department of Modern Languages provide research and educational opportunities for faculty and students. Your gift, no matter the size, can be designated to help fund travel for students to attend conferences and professional meetings, scholarships, and support for faculty research.

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For more information, call or write to Ellen Fultz, Assistant Dean for Development, College of Arts and Sciences, 302 McGuffey Hall, Ohio University, Athens, Ohio 45701, (740) 597-2145, fultz@ohio.edu.

On behalf of everyone in the Department of Modern Languages, we thank you for your support!

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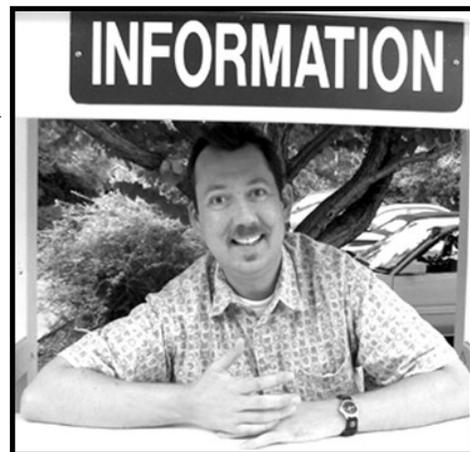
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Thanks!

Greetings from the LRC Director

The Language Resource Center, as always, had a very busy and successful year. Since my arrival on campus in 1999, we have been fortunate to completely upgrade and replace the equipment contained in the labs and classroom of the Language Resource Center with the help of grants and technology funding. Over the last five years, I was able to significantly expand on our holdings by adding wireless carts, laptops, and other teaching resources that travel around the building directly into our classrooms, so that we may continuously improve on the teaching and learning of language and literature at Ohio University.



This year, a \$34,000 Housebill grant for adding wireless notebook computers to one of our existing audio labs meant that we were able to expand our instructional space and offerings without adding actual rooms or expensive furniture. We can now offer speech recognition and digital comparative recording, an area of interest to my colleagues in DML and the Linguistics Department. With this funding we were able to rejuvenate an older lab and turn it back into a state-of-the-art facility without incurring astronomical expenses for furniture and installation.

Our latest project involves creating and implementing a completely mobile language lab. I recently acquired a class-set of 24 iPods equipped with the Belkin iTalk Recorder Plugin. The LRC distributes these iPods to language instructors and their students, who in turn use them as mobile Mini-Labs for a variety of projects. They can record themselves and other people (e.g., international students or native speakers) to practice their speaking and listening skills, keep an audio-diary, read into the iPod--all this in the language they are studying. Then, after syncing the iPod with one of the eMacs in our Open Lab, students post their recordings either to the LRC server, to their Blackboard class sites, or email (see p. 11) them directly to their instructor for evaluation purposes or for the whole class to share.

As you can see from this short synopsis, new and exciting things are going on in the bowels of Gordy. If you are on campus, please stop by, say "Hello," and we will gladly show you around the Language Resource Center. If you cannot make it in person, you can always visit us on the web at <http://lrc-web.modlang.ohiou.edu/lrc/lab/>

With warm regards,

Jörg Waltje, Director LRC

ALUMNI Update Questionnaire

Now that you've read all of our news, we would like to hear some of yours! Please fill out the following questionnaire and return it to the Department of Modern Languages, Gordy Hall, Ohio University, Athens, Ohio 45701-2979.

Name: _____
First Maiden Last Language Degree/ Yr.

Address: _____
Street City State Zip Country

Email Address: _____

Language(s) Studied At O.U.: _____
Year of graduation from O.U.

Study Abroad Program(s): _____
Country Year

UPDATE:

- Any news about yourself?
- Are you still using your language skills?
- Do you know the addresses of any other alumni?
- Do you have any news that might be of interest for our next issue?

Please list any information below:

Contributions to any of the following funds can be sent to the Ohio University Foundation, P.O. Box 869, Athens, OH 45701 with the name of the fund clearly indicated on the check.

- _____ Modern Languages Study Abroad
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