

OUTSTANDING TEACHING AWARDS IN SPANISH AND FRENCH

Two faculty members in Modern Languages have won teaching awards this past year. Carole Cloutier, Associate Professor of Spanish, was selected for The Jeanette G. Grasselli Brown Faculty Teaching Award. Dominique Duvert, Assistant Professor of French, received the College of Arts and Sciences Outstanding Group II Faculty Award.



Dominique Duvert and Carole Cloutier

Cloutier, who has taught at O.U. since 2002, was recognized for her teaching and innovative pedagogical scholarship. As Director of the first-year Spanish program, she trains and mentors twenty teaching associates in Spanish and teaches three undergraduate courses. Her use of "task-based" instruction encourages students to acquire language skills in real-world situations.

Carrying out an ambitious research agenda, Cloutier has published a language-learning packet, *Activities Which Promote Meaningful Interaction in the Spanish Language Classroom* (Prentice Hall, 2004), two sets of practice materials (Wiley & Sons, 2004), and a methods textbook in Spanish (McGraw-Hill, 2005). She also contributes to the teaching mission of the department by serving as chair of the committee for evaluating the teaching performance of adjunct faculty members. Students consistently men-

tion her enthusiasm, her positive attitude, and her love of the language and culture.

Dominique Duvert has taught a wide variety of courses since she began teaching in the department 18 years ago. Her student evaluations are among the best in the department, whether she is teaching French language, literature or culture. She developed the Business French course in 1994 as part of a grant sponsored by the Center for International Studies and has taught it every other year since 1995. This course requires constant updating, as Duvert has students read articles from current periodicals dealing with business topics.

In addition to teaching numerous courses on various levels, Duvert serves as coordinator of the second-year French language series, a position that demands a lot of her time outside of class. She is always willing to help students prepare a résumé in French and seek internships abroad. On course evaluations, students praise her expertise, good humor, and creativity in the classroom and beyond.

Our department is proud of the quality teaching our colleagues offer. Since 2001, four faculty have received College of Arts and Sciences teaching awards, five have earned recognition for outstanding classroom instruction from the Jeanette Grasselli Brown endowment, one has been honored with the Ohio University Presidential Teaching Award, and the Ohio Foreign Language Association bestowed its Outstanding Language Educator award on yet another. We congratulate Carole and Dominique for these newest awards, which acknowledge the important role that first- and second-year language instruction plays at Ohio University. In many cases, quality instruction motivates students to continue as minors or even majors, and, for those students who do not stop after fulfilling the language requirement, well-taught classes provide a meaningful introduction to the important role that language and culture play in our global society.

Greetings!

It is with pleasure, and not a small measure of pride, that I welcome you to this Fall 2006 edition of *Say There*. Once again, there are many outstanding accomplishments to highlight.

In this issue you will see that our department has been honored by the College of Arts and Sciences, as two of our colleagues and one of our TAs have won teaching awards. Should the university wish to designate a "Most Outstanding Department" award, I think our department would be an excellent candidate!



Our faculty continue to participate in national and international conferences as well as publish in the best journals and scholarly presses. You can read about these and other honors in the faculty news section. Our students also had a banner year, as our majors and minors won a record number of nationally competitive awards. These are detailed on page 4.

The Department continues to expand the study abroad opportunities for Ohio University students. News of our long-standing programs in Austria, Canada (Québec), Ecuador, France, Martinique, Mexico, Russia, and Spain fills page 3. Joining this elite group, Pepo Delgado will inaugurate the winter intersession program in Puerto Rico beginning this year. Our department then becomes one of the handful of universities nationwide that offer two programs in the Caribbean. The opportunities for interdisciplinary cooperation and curriculum enrichment that the two programs in the Caribbean provide make this newest offering exciting for faculty as well as students.

There were a number of changes of personnel last year, as the department lost some remarkable people. We all miss our administrative assistant, the amazing Leslie Johnson, who left Athens for Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. Leslie was the point person in the office, the first contact for many students, and we could always count on a student's first impression being a positive one. We also lost two of our faculty, Maïke Ahrends and Manuel Triano-López, who moved on to interesting places and career possibilities. We wish them well in their new pursuits and still consider them part of the family. Barry Thomas, in spite of massive protests, is insisting on moving from early to full retirement at the end of this fall. Barry has been an outstanding representative of the best that the department and profession have to offer and he will be sorely missed.

With this admirable group of people and impressive list of past accomplishments, it is easy to be optimistic about the future. We are picking up this year where we left off, with our newly tenured colleague, Chris Coski, and three new Group IV colleagues who are already adding new ideas and new energy to the ongoing discussion. Our new administrative assistant, Lora Riffle, is making friends and calming frazzled nerves with her winning smile. Please accept our invitation to visit us in Athens and share our excitement. We would love to hear from you.

Sincerely,
Fred

Say There®

Layout Designer:
Wendy D. Kaaz

Editors:
Mary Jane Kelley
Lois Vines
Wendy D. Kaaz

A special thanks to
Barry Thomas and
Rich Danner for
proofreading

©2006 Ohio University, Athens, Ohio 45701

Study Abroad

Avignon, France (Director, Christophe Corbin, assisted by Martha Broom-Barxias)

Twenty of our students spent last Spring Quarter in France, in the city of Avignon. This new location allowed students to explore one of France's most fascinating cities (Avignon used to be the center of Christianity in the XIVth century) and most beautiful regions: Provence, in the south of France. Students took 4 to 5 classes at the Université d'Avignon, and some of them had the chance to meet veterans of the French Resistance (from WWII) as part of one of their classes. Excursions included visits to Paris, nearby Provençal villages, Marseilles, and to a Roman aqueduct. Students enjoyed the laid-back atmosphere and distinct culture of the south of France. Applications for this program are accepted in the fall. Information can be found at www.ohiou.edu/studyabroad

Ecuador (Director, Anne Porter)

Sixteen students participated in the Cuenca Program in Spring 2006. Because on our arrival in Ecuador there were road blocks protesting the Fair Trade Agreement, we opted for a flight from Quito to Cuenca instead of our usual 3-day bus trip. The clear skies and spectacular view of at least 7-8 of the snow-capped volcanoes that constitute Ecuador's Avenue of Volcanoes compensated for the few places we missed visiting. In Cuenca students took Spanish classes at the 300-400 level, worked hard on our volunteer service project and enjoyed numerous excursions to all parts of the country. New this year was an overnight trip to Saraguro, home of one of Ecuador's strongest ethnic groups, where the students enjoyed sharing music, dance, and a typical meal with the community and took part in an ancient Andean ritual.

Martinique (Director, Yolande Helm)

During the winter intersession this past year, I took four students to Martinique, a French island in the Caribbean. The group was small but very active. Two were taking my class, and two did an internship at the RFO (Radio France Internationale) and the Banque Générale de France. As usual, we went on excursions and, since we were a small group, we saw more! We traveled around the island and visited La Montagne Pelée, Le Château Dubuc, l'Habitation Clément, la presqu'île de la Caravelle, rum distilleries, and museums. The students lived with Martinican and Metropolitan families. Courses on works written by native writers, including the well-known Aimé Césaire and Suzanne Dracius, made the experience all the more interesting for the students. If you would like to learn more, visit our website under Study Abroad, Martinique: <http://www.ohio.edu/modlang/french/frenchabroad.cfm>

Mérida, Mexico (Co-Directors, David Burton and Daniel Torres, Assisted by Jessica Rangel and Lori Lammert)

In Winter 2006, the Programa Mayab took 46 undergraduates to study abroad in Mérida. The two teaching assistants to go along were Beth Woodring and Ana Zapata. As in the previous years, we visited several Mayan ruins. This educational experience gives our students the possibility to try their Spanish in an authentic environment in which they are able to negotiate meaning at home with their Mexican family, at school with their teachers, and in the city of Mérida where they make new friends. This year we had exchange conversation hours with the Universidad Tecnológica Metropolitana that gave our students the opportunity to interact one-on-one with Mexican college students. Drs. Burton and Torres continue to be co-directors. Former students are encouraged to send memories to our webmaster at oumayab@yahoo.com. Check out activities on our web page at www.oumayab.com

Moscow, Russia (Director, Karen Evans-Romaine)

The Ohio University Spring Quarter in Moscow Program took its seventh journey to Russia in spring 2006 with seven Ohio University students. Students lived with host families and took language, literature, and culture classes on the campus of Moscow State University with instructors from the Kitaigorodskaja Center for Foreign Language Instruction and with program director Karen Evans-Romaine, Associate Professor of Russian at OU. Students took a three-day excursion to St. Petersburg in May and a day trip to the ancient Russian cities of Vladimir and Suzdal. The group also had weekly excursions in Moscow, to the Kremlin, Tretyakov Gallery, Novodevichii Monastery, and other famous sites.

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. During the past academic year, 55 students studied in Pamplona experiencing the unique opportunity to become well-acquainted with the region's diverse cultural and historical patrimony on different weekend excursions to Bilbao, San Sebastián, Vitoria, Burgos, and Zaragoza among other important cities. 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. Also, with the dual aim of giving something back to their host city, all students participate in community service activities and interact with the people, gaining a wider perspective of Spanish culture and Spaniards' way of living and thinking. Pamplona is a unique location because it gives the students a better perspective of Spain.

Continued on next page.

Québec City, Canada (Director, Christophe Corbin, Assisted by Geneviève Boucher.)

For the fourth consecutive summer, 18 O.U. students went to the Province of Québec to follow Université Laval's French Foreign Language Intensive Summer Program in Québec City. The first week of the program, the group studied the history of the province, visited local museums, and went to Montreal for a two-day excursion on Canada's National Day. The five remaining weeks were spent studying French, and for some students, Québec Literature, Cinema and Culture, with students of 54 nationalities. Excursions also included whale watching, white water rafting, and dinner at a local sugar shack. Once again, students enjoyed Québec City's vibrant night life and the hospitality of their host families. Applications for this program are accepted on a rolling basis until it is full (20 participants maximum). Information can be found at www.ohiou.edu/studyabroad

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

Twenty students participated this spring, which saw two major changes to the program. First, after 26 years, the program changed addresses, moving to Europa Kolleg, a dormitory at the University of Salzburg. This move was a great success on many levels, offering students larger, better rooms and more opportunities for meeting Austrian and international students. Second, our program classes also found a new home at the English department of the University of Salzburg, which also provided our students more contact opportunities and allowed them a first-hand experience of an Austrian university. Thanks to a generous loan from the LRC, our students were able to take advantage of the borrowed I-pods and video camera for their cultural assignments, producing numerous audio interviews and several short films. In addition to the regular program trips to Munich and Cologne in Germany, we were able to expand our excursions in Austria to include an exciting weekend in Vienna, a visit to the former concentration camp in Mauthausen, and an alpine tour of the Grossglockner (Austria's highest mountain) and the Krimmler waterfalls. General information and a link to pictures from the 2006 program can be found at: <http://oak.cats.ohiou.edu/~sathe/austria/>.

Study Abroad Programs Help Students Win National Awards

Participation in study abroad programs helps students gain the language skills and self-confidence they need to compete successfully at the national level for awards in other countries. This year, eight students were selected for Teaching Assistantships in France sponsored by the French government: Katy Adair, Cara DiBlasi, Kim Fell, Adam Hart, Laura Powell, Charles Schwartz, Alexis Taylor, and Jennifer Ulicky. All of these students had studied abroad, an experience that inspired them to apply for the opportunity to spend a year teaching English in public schools in France. Two German majors, Eileen Kehlbach and Meghan Schuck, who participated in the Salzburg Study Abroad program, were awarded Fulbright Teaching Assistantships for 2006-2007. In addition, two German majors and former Salzburg participants, Art Cornwell and Eric Sponseller, are now teaching English at Austrian high schools, supported by assistantships from the Austrian Ministry of Education. Since 2003-04, nine students with majors or minors in the Department of Modern Languages have been Fulbright recipients. For 2007-08 competition, there are nine Fulbright candidates from our department.

New Study Abroad Scholarship Endowed

The Department of Modern Languages is pleased to announce the establishment of a new scholarship fund, "Study Abroad in France." The purpose of the endowment is to help students who plan to study for a quarter in France with the program sponsored by our department. This financial support will offset some of the costs incurred by the students, such as round-trip plane fare. Faculty members from our department have directed programs in Tours for 38 years and, since 2006, in Avignon. This spring, we will celebrate the 40th anniversary of the program in France. The French section is considering including study abroad as a requirement for the BA in French. Spanish already requires a one-quarter study abroad program in a Spanish-speaking country. If you wish to make a donation to one of our study abroad scholarships, simply make your check out to the "Ohio University Foundation" and note in the memo section the name of the fund to which you wish to direct your gift. (See page 11.) You may also indicate that your donation is in honor of the director of your specific program. For additional information on making a gift, please contact Ellen Fultz, senior director of development at fultz@ohio.edu.

Evans-Romaine Receives Fulbright

Karen-Evans Romaine, Associate Professor of Russian, has received a Fulbright Senior Scholar award for the academic year 2006-07. She is teaching courses on music and literature, American literature, and advanced English at Smolny College for the Liberal Arts, an affiliate of St. Petersburg University that is linked with Bard College. She is also conducting research on Russian poets at the National Library in St. Petersburg.

Evans-Romaine has taught Russian at Ohio University for ten years and is co-author of the leading first-year textbook, *Golosa*. In addition to her work at O.U., Evans-Romaine has been the director of the Russian School at Middlebury College in the summer since 2004 and coordinated the first-year Russian language program there from 2001 to 2003.

Faculty News

David Burton My second book, *Anthology of Medieval Spanish Prose*, was published by Juan de la Cuesta in 2005. Last spring, I used this book to introduce undergraduates to medieval literature in my Spanish 435 Proseminar.

Tom Franz I published with Juan de la Cuesta a book titled *Unamuno's Paratexts: Twisted Guides to Contorted Narratives*. Last December, the National Spanish Honor Society, Sigma Delta Pi, awarded me the Order of Don Quijote. In July, the Franzes went to France and Italy, where some very rusty Italian was put to some sort of use after a half year of desperate review. I continue to ski and to take my boy scout troop on camping trips. I don't know what I would do without a lot of writing and outdoor activities.

Mary Jane Kelley Although I continue work on medieval Spanish narrative, much of my professional energy has been devoted to supervising the second-year Spanish language program here in the department. We are currently using a content-based approach, which guarantees that even if students end language study with Spanish 213, they will leave OU with an introductory knowledge of Hispanic cultures.

Emilia Alonso Marks The summer of 2005 I returned from Pamplona, Spain, after spending an academic year with OU students abroad. Taking students abroad is such a rewarding experience! I spent last spring quarter working on a sociolinguistics project that explored the question of identity and linguistic variation in itinerant societies. That is, the effects (cultural, linguistic, etc.) that newly created communities of people have on already established communities. So far I have created a data base. My hope is to interpret my results by the end of the current academic year. In December I am making a trip to Buenos Aires. This would be my second visit to Latin America. I am psyched!

Betsy Partyka At the end of my first year as Director of Latin American Studies, I tapped into an existing TEFL program in Cuenca, Ecuador that piggybacks well with our current study abroad program in the spring. We sent 4 graduates and 3 undergraduates to earn their Teaching English as a Foreign Language certifi-

cate in Cuenca. The students loved the experience so much we will continue the program. Graduates get their tuition waivers and the institute (CEDEI) in Ecuador is looking for students who will stay beyond the program and teach English for a year. What a great new connection! I presented a paper on Paraguayan literature in sunny San Juan, Puerto Rico with graduate student Mara Borges. After seeing this lovely island I support more than ever our new intersession study abroad program in PR. This summer it's back to Paraguay and Argentina with my 9 year old twins! We spent last summer with marching band as my 7th grader plays flute. What a hoot!

Barry Thomas Five years ago I announced in "Say There" my transition from full-time teaching to "early-retirement", which meant that I taught only in the Fall Quarter. This was a great way, after 40-plus years, to get used to the idea of not teaching any longer. 'Aber jetzt ist es so weit': as of November 22, 2006 I am fully retired. The good news is that Jean & I will have more time to travel to our old and new favorite places; the bad news is that I will no longer enjoy the daily contact with students who have helped to keep me young, if not chronologically then at least in spirit! But the memory of all those grand times, especially the Salzburg experiences--well, maybe a few of those were not quite so grand: yes, you know who I mean :-)-will help make this next transition much easier. As Novalis said in his novel 'Heinrich von Ofterdingen': "Wohin gehen wir?--Immer nach Hause". I take that to mean that no journey is ever complete, there are just many stages that one experiences. This next stage promises to be very exciting! But leaving the classroom does not mean leaving relationships, so I hope that we can remain in frequent contact, and that you will keep Jean and me up-to-date on developments in your personal and professional lives. E- or Snail-mail is always welcome: thomasb@ohio.edu

Daniel Torres This past summer I presented a paper at the Instituto Internacional de Literatura Iberoamericana (Genoa, Italy) about my new book-length project on the construction of a Creole identity in Colonial Mexico. I did a reading at the Cincinnati Romance Languages and Literatures Conference from

my new book *Mavriconerías: Escritos desde el margen*, that will come out in November 2006 from Isla Negra Editores (San Juan, Puerto Rico). La poesía en la literatura hispanoamericana was accepted for publication by Editorial Pliegos (Madrid, Spain). A book chapter on the poetry of José Emilio Pacheco, two articles on the narrative of Joaquín Bestard Vázquez and Manuel Ramos Otero, and an interview with poet Alfredo Villanueva Collado appeared in *José Emilio Pacheco: Perspectivas críticas, Unicornio, Unas letras*, and *Ars homoerótica: Escribir la homosexualidad en las letras hispánicas*.

Lara Wallace In August 2005, I opened Pangaea Tea & Coffee Room in uptown Athens. Pictures, post cards, and drinking vessels from around the world grace the walls, and international music greets the ears. In addition to Travel Talks, several nights a week are dedicated to comfortable and smoke-free conversation hours. Since Winter 2006, Spanish students and community members have met on Tuesdays at 8pm. On Wednesdays at 7pm, Russian has been the language of choice, and Pangaea has also hosted both Italian Conversation Hour and International Conversation Hour, where International students are invited to brush up on their English skills. Original inspiration for opening Pangaea came from when I lived above the teashop Dar Ziryab in Granada, Spain. www.pangtea.com

Jörg Waltje I presented a workshop on "Audio and Video for the 21st Century" at the 2006 CALICO conference at the University of Hawaii, and gave a well-received presentation on our students' use of iPods as "Mobile Mini-Labs" at this year's EUROCALL conference in Granada, Spain. I am currently on sabbatical in Germany where I am working on a variety of projects, for example the translation of a contemporary German novel. I am also working on the statistical analysis of a student-engagement project we conducted at the LRC in order to get it ready for publication, and I am involved in the development of a computer game for language learning. At the same time I am also honing my technical and analytical skills in order to stay current and to come back refreshed and full of new ideas and initiatives.

COSKI TENURED

The department is proud to congratulate Christopher Coski on his promotion to Associate Professor of French with tenure effective September, 2006. Since joining the department in 2000, Coski has taught all levels of French language and literature. In each of his classes, Chris's students appreciate his expertise, his ability to engage them actively with the material, and his sincere concern for their learning. Outside of class, Chris works with students as faculty advisor to the OU French Honor Society and the OU Chess Club. Coski's research analyzes philosophies of language and mind in early-modern thought, especially in the writings of the French thinker Condillac. His articles, published in highly respected academic journals, have contributed substantially to the scholarly dialogue regarding the literature, philosophy, and culture of early-modern France. By granting Coski tenure and promotion, the Department of Modern Languages, the College of Arts and Sciences, and Ohio University's administration have recognized Coski's valuable contributions to the teaching, research, and service missions of the institution.

KAAZ MOVING UP

Wendy Kaaz has served the department's media needs since joining the Ellis Hall Language Lab staff as Clerical Coordinator in 1996. In those early years, Wendy's responsibilities included various secretarial duties as well as supervising the student lab assistants. With the department's move to the new Language Resource Center in Gordy Hall, the university upgraded her job to Media Resource Coordinator in order to reflect a shift in responsibility to a more technologically oriented position. In the old Language Lab, "media" meant audio and video tape; the LRC offers students and faculty a wide variety of computer applications including production of digital sound and video files, website creation, and the capability of loading images,

video, and sound onto various servers for off-site student access. Kaaz has learned how each new machine or application functions in order to guide students and faculty in their use. A huge professional milestone came this year as Kaaz completed her BA in Management and Ethics at Ohio Christian University (formerly Circleville Bible College). At the morning awards ceremony, she was honored for having the highest GPA in her cohort. Having taken a liking to higher education, Kaaz has now begun the master's program in Computer Education and Technology at Ohio University. During the 2006-2007 academic year, Wendy will play an expanded role in the LRC while Director Jörg Waltje is away on Faculty Fellowship Leave.

COLLOQUIA PROMOTE DIALOGUE, DANCING

"Puerto Rican / Cuban Impressions" and "Race and the Spectrum of Critical Consciousness" were the focus of two department-sponsored dialogues spring quarter.

The annual Spanish colloquium, organized by faculty members Betsy Partyka and Pepo Delgado, featured two days of presentations from scholars on the politics, literature, art, music, and human geography of the Caribbean islands. The list of presenters featured two OU students: one, Arian Smedley, an undergraduate majoring in Spanish and Journalism, who spoke on "The Rise of Reggaeton"; the other, Cecilia Merchán, an MA student and TA in our Spanish graduate program, whose paper explored "Los taínos de Puerto Rico." In addition, Karen Kornweibel, of OU's African-American Studies program; Cuban writer Manuel Cachán; Isabel Graziani, an art historian from Shawnee State University; and Mark Sawyer, a political scientist from UCLA, offered unique perspectives on Caribbean culture. The Friday afternoon session adjourned to a potluck dinner at Professor David Burton's home, where the reggaeton rhythms drew even the shyest, not to mention the youngest, participants to the dance floor.

On each of three Friday afternoons in April, the first forum on "Race and the Spectrum of Critical Consciousness" convened in Baker Center. Organizer and Spanish faculty member Amanda Nolacea Harris invited OU faculty from a variety of departments to address issues related to "Structures, Pedagogy and Universals," "Institutional Discrimination and Language," and "Diversities, Ethics, Appropriations and Opportunities." OU President Roderick McDavis shared welcoming remarks at the first of the three sessions, and department faculty Arthur Hughes, Amanda Nolacea Harris, Fred Toner, Manuel Triano López and Amado J. Lászar offered papers, along with OU colleagues Najee Muhammad, Valerie Mendoza, David Descutner, and George Hartley. Each session attracted a diverse audience representing OU and the Athens community, and each day the lively discussion ran far beyond the scheduled two hours.

Department Hosted Visiting Professor from Martinique

Spring quarter 2006 the Department of Modern Languages was honored to host Suzanne Dracius, an author and professor from Martinique, a French overseas department in the Caribbean. Yolande Helm, Associate Professor of French and Director of our department's three-week winter-intersession program on the island, nominated Dracius for the Robert and Rene Glidden Visiting Professorship.

During her stay on campus, Dracius taught a course on French Western Caribbean literature, mostly focusing on her own work. She has written poetry, novellas, a novel and a play, *Lumina Sophie dite Surprise*, which Emily Ann Wagener, a graduating senior in the Honors Tutorial College, translated into English with the guidance of the author. The play, titled in English "Lumina Sophia Called Surprise," dramatizes an 1870 insurrection in Martinique led by a Creole Joan of Arc. Women play dominant roles in the literary creations by Suzanne Dracius, who is recognized as a major feminist writer in the Francophone world.

Farfels Honored for their Dedication to Ohio University.

Ursula Farfel earned her BA degree in German in 1956 at O.U. before going on for the MA at Rice University. She and her husband, Gilbert Farfel, a physician, value their educational experiences and have supported the academic mission at O.U. in extraordinary ways. They have endowed four-year tuition scholarships in Modern Languages and in Classics. Their strong interest in learning inspired them to collect 500 incunables and manuscripts, which they have donated to our University Libraries. They have also endowed the Ursula and Gilbert Farfel Prize for Excellence in Investigative Reporting, a prestigious national award.

Our department is especially grateful for their generosity, which has supported two outstanding undergraduate students, Jaime Golden, a French major who graduated in June, and Caitlin Yocco, a freshman French major in the Honors Tutorial College, the most recent recipient of the Farfel scholarship.

In December President McDavis will present the Distinguished Service Award to Mrs. Farfel and the Honorary Alumnus Award to Dr. Farfel. The Department of Modern Languages congratulates the Farfels and thanks them for their support of our language majors.

Phi Sigma Iota: French Honor Society

At the induction dinner in February, sixteen outstanding students in French became members of Phi Sigma Iota.

Phi Sigma Iota also participated in "A Taste of Study Abroad" this past Spring. This is a great event with display rooms devoted to all of the countries in which OU runs Study Abroad Programs. The French-speaking area had information on Martinique, Québec, and of course, France, with colorful displays and good food-most notably Alisha Hunt's poutine, a dish from Québec.

Phi Sigma Iota members also engaged in tutoring and conversation-group activities during the academic year and over the summer.

Links to photos of the Induction Dinner and of the French-speaking area from "A Taste of Study Abroad" can be found at:

<http://oak.cats.ohiou.edu/~coski/honorsociety.html>

German Club

During the 2005-2006 school year the German Club hosted a German dinner, and conducted a spring and fall candy sale (Gummibärchen and Toblerone) to raise funds for a study abroad scholarship to be awarded to a participant on a German language study abroad program. At the end of fall quarter 2006, advanced students in the German Club and Delta Phi Alpha hosted a review session for lower level German students studying for their final exams.

Spanish Honorary

OU Chapter Pi Rho (Tau of Ohio) of Sigma Delta Pi initiated 20 students into the society in May of 2006. Officers for 2006-07 are Kristine Tilley, President; Kelsy Grefe, Vice-President; Jaime Siegel, Secretary; and Rebecca Dingus, Treasurer. During Fall members sold late-night grilled cheese sandwiches on Court Street to benefit an organization that helps migrant workers in Ohio.

Scholarship and Award Recipients

URSULA FEER FARFEL SCHOLARSHIP

Caitlin Yocco

MARY L. DURNION SCHOLARSHIP

Megan Beck
Jennifer Case
Natalia Lavric

MARY T. NOSS SCHOLARSHIP

Emily Grantham
Melania Lavric
Erin Pyles
Lillian Rutana
Kathryn Williams

MAXINE McCRORY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Katherine Kussin
Leah Vincent
Melissa Evans
Lauren Sorrows
Marc Fencil
Kelly Ventresco

GERALD T. WILKINSON AWARD Outstanding Junior French Majors

Megan Beck
Natalia Lavric

GERALD T. WILKINSON AWARD Outstanding Graduating Seniors in French

Emily Ann Wagener

Regents Graduate/Professional Fellowship Ohio Board of Regents

Roger Anderson

Graduate Awards

OUTSTANDING TEACHING ASSOCIATE IN FRENCH

Cara DiBlasi

OUTSTANDING TEACHING ASSOCIATE IN SPANISH

Mara Borges

Our Department

French

Christophe Corbin christophecorbin@hotmail.com
Chris Coski coski@ohio.edu
Richard Danner (Emeritus) danner@ohio.edu
Signe Denbow denbowe@ohio.edu
Dominique Duvert duvert@ohio.edu
Yolande Helm helm@ohio.edu
Brigitte Moretti-Coski moretti@ohio.edu
Ruth Nybakken (Emerita) nybakken@ohio.edu
Herta Rodina rodina@ohio.edu
Fred Toner toner@ohio.edu
Lois Vines vinesl@ohio.edu

German

Dara Bryant bryantd1@ohio.edu
Klaus Plonien plonien@ohio.edu
Nik Sathe sathe@ohio.edu
Annette Steigerwald steigera@ohio.edu
Barry Thomas (Emeritus) thomasb@ohio.edu
Karin Wright wrightk@ohio.edu

Italian

Maria Milano milano@ohio.edu
Molly Morrison morrisom@ohio.edu
Claudia Silvy silvy@ohio.edu

Spanish

Kit Brown brownk2@ohio.edu
David Burton burtond@ohio.edu
Carole Cloutier cloutier@ohio.edu
José Delgado-Costa delgadoj@ohio.edu

Thomas Franz franz@ohio.edu
Amanda Harris harrisa1@ohio.edu
Nelson Hippolyte hippolyt@ohio.edu
Virginia Hojas hojas@ohio.edu
Arthur Hughes hughesa@ohio.edu
Mary Jane Kelley kelley@ohio.edu
Amado Láscar lascar@ohio.edu
Emilia Marks markse@ohio.edu
Jeff Marks marksj@ohio.edu
Abelardo Moncayo-Andrade moncayo@ohio.edu
Betsy Partyka partyka@ohio.edu
Anne Porter porterp1@ohio.edu
Barbara Reichenbach breich@eurekanet.com
Anne Scott scotta2@ohio.edu
Michael Sisson sisson@ohio.edu
Daniel Torres torres@ohio.edu
Carisa Trapp trappc@ohio.edu
Lara Wallace wallacl1@ohio.edu
Maureen Weissenrieder weissenr@ohio.edu
Josefina Williams williaj2@ohio.edu

Russian

Vera Belousova belousov@ohio.edu
Karen Evans-Romaine evans-ro@ohio.edu

Language Resource Center

Jörg Waltje waltje@ohio.edu

Staff

Jan Harmon harmonj@ohio.edu
Wendy Kaaz kaaz@ohio.edu
Brett Lewis lewisb@ohio.edu
Lora Riffle rifflel@ohio.edu

Alum NEWS

Stan Feldstein (Spanish 1969)

I have been a part-time instructor of Elementary Spanish at Owens Community College, Toledo, Ohio since the fall of 2000 while still continuing my men's clothing career. I enjoy it very much and wish I had done it years ago. At times I get the opportunity to use my Spanish with clothing customers. It breaks the ice quickly.

Helena Disco Schaefers (MA German 1973) I have been actively involved in education since leaving OU. I substitute taught in Parkersburg, WV and in New Hampshire, worked at a German corporation Elb Grinders Corporation in Mountainside, New Jersey, as an executive secretary for a year, and then taught at Manville High School in New Jersey. I was at home for seven years with my two daughters and then moved to Pittsburgh where I was hired to teach first grade and German in the International Studies Program. I have been with the

Pittsburgh City Schools for 23 years. I went back to school at Duquesne University and received my Elementary Certification, so now I am certified in grades K-12. I teach grades 1-6 in an after-school program. I have taken a Comparative Education program at Waldkraiburg, Germany and studied at the Goethe Institut in Goettingen. I also studied with professors of German in Graz and Vienna, Austria. Presently I am director of a camp for children, grades 2-9, learning German, French, and Spanish at Camp Kon-O-Kwee, a very highly respected YMCA camp. I can be reached at helenaschaefers@hotmail.com.

Rex L. Crawley, PhD (French 1986) In the Fall (Sept.) 2005 I was promoted to Associate Professor and Department head of Communications at Robert Morris University in Pittsburgh, PA. Prior to this appointment I was the Director of The Office of International Honors, where I was a study abroad coordinator.

My experience in France via the O.U. study abroad program has greatly contributed to my overall success and had a direct impact on my decision to acquire a PhD in Intercultural Communications. I can be reached at crawley@mru.edu

Catherine Sullivan Andang (MA French 1994) I'm about to embark on a career as a Foreign Service Officer with the US Agency for International Development (USAID) and am hoping for a first posting in Francophone Africa. I just finished 5 years working for the Peace Corps, first in Washington then in Bangladesh. I use French every day at home. My husband, Guy, is a native of Cameroon. We have 2 children: Maeve, 3 1/2 years and Kieran, 8 1/2 months.

Gina Honigford Towner (MA French 2000) In 2004, my husband and I moved to Sioux City, Iowa so he could take a job on the music faculty at Morningside College, a small, liberal arts

Alum NEWS

college. I was fortunate to be hired in two jobs at the college as well. I am an ESL/writing tutor in the Academic Support Center and I am an adjunct faculty member in the Modern Language Department teaching courses in French 101 and 102. I spend the rest of my time as a stay-at-home mom with our daughter, Laura Kay, born in September 2005.

Alexandra Gillette McStay (BA French & Spanish 2000) My husband and I have a 2 1/2 year old daughter, Aislin Solana, who keeps us very busy. I speak exclusively to her in Spanish so she is busy learning two languages. We plan on taking her to Mexico sometime in the next few years. I am at home with her for the moment, but hopefully next year I will rejoin the workforce as a lower school Spanish teacher. We are still living on St. Croix in the USVI and have no plans to leave. Next time we are in Ohio, I will pop in and say hello. It was very nice to see some of you last time I was at O.U. I hope the new year finds everyone healthy and happy. Con mucho cariño.

Bethany Widmayer (BA French 2001) I am very happy to announce that I have been accepted to attend the Ohio State

University. I will begin the MA program in Foreign/Second Language Education with a specialization in French autumn quarter of 2006. I would like to thank Dr. Toner, Dr. Vines and Dr. Denbow for writing my letters of recommendation and especially for believing in me!

Francesca V. Mignosa (BA French 2002) I was in NYC producing films, documentaries, TV. I completed a documentary, "Sicilian Puppets: Personal Redemption and Collective Imagination." I am working on another on "Theatre for Development."

Giovanna Mignosa (BA French 2005) I am currently pursuing a double master's in Art History and Multimedia at Ohio University. I am teaching Art History and working at the GRID (Game Research Immersion Design) Lab.

Kara Petrosky (German 2005) has accepted a German teaching position in Latrobe, Pennsylvania after completing a Fulbright Assistantship in Erfurt, Germany.

Sarah Knuckles and Amy Conway (German 2006) are now in graduate

school. Sarah is at the University of Cincinnati studying German and Amy is at Simmons College (MA) studying Library/Information Science.

Tara Trennkamp and Sarah Lang (German 2006) are working as au pairs in southern Germany.

Krista Crnobrnja (German 2006) has accepted a German teaching position at Sylvania High School.

Several of our recent **MA graduates in Spanish** went on to complete PhD work and are now employed in academia: Daniel Chavez (**MA 1993**, PhD University of Michigan) is Assistant Professor of Spanish at the University of Kentucky, Dolores Flores Silva (**MA 1995**, PhD University of Kentucky) is Assistant Professor of Spanish at Roanoke College in Virginia, José Manuel Hidalgo (**MA 2003**, PhD University of Virginia) is Assistant Professor of Spanish at Georgia Southern University, and Jim Michnowicz (**BA 1996** and **MA 1998**, PhD Penn State University) is Assistant Professor at North Carolina State University in Durham.

TA IN SPANISH WINS OUTSTANDING TEACHING AWARD

Catherine Stark, Teaching Associate and MA student in Spanish, won the university-wide Outstanding Teaching Award for 2006. The award recognizes four or five graduate associates each year who excel in the classroom. TAs are nominated by their students through online ballots. The selection process is then conducted by undergraduate students who volunteer to serve on a committee whose members review the nominations, interview the candidates, and observe classes. Tim Vickers, Assistant Director of the Center for Teaching Excellence, is the committee's advisor. At the awards ceremony in May, attended by O.U. President Roderick McDavis, the recipients each received \$500 and a framed certificate.

Stark is the fourth TA in Modern Languages to win the award since it was initiated in 1988. Kerry Ferguson was recognized in 1997, Erica McClellan in 1998, and Amy Leafgren in 2003, all TAs in Spanish. Our department is very proud of the high quality teaching at the beginning levels of language instruction. In addition to the University Graduate Associate Outstanding Teaching Awards, the College of Arts and Sciences recognizes the teaching contributions of Graduate Associates. In

2006, Cara DiBlasi won the award in French and Mara Borges in Spanish.



President Roderick McDavis, Catherine Stark, Fred Toner, Betsy Partyka, Carole Cloutier

DEPARTMENT OF MODERN LANGUAGES 2005-2006 CONTRIBUTORS

Mr. & Mrs. Scott Adair
Mrs. Laurel Ayers
Miss Anne M. Battistone
Dr. Frank Brooks
Ms. Sue A. Bugansky
Mrs. Joan T. Centlivre
Mr. & Mrs. Abraham Clearfield
Mr. Daniel Conner
Mrs. Sheryl B. Cook
Richard & Mary Danner
Mr. Bruce Francis Dear
Mrs. Colleen C. Dillon
Ms. Maxine Drapkin
Ms. Janie L. Duncan
Ms. Rachel N. Fawcett
Mrs. Marie Forsell Fill
Mr. Gerard Gatoux
Mrs. Meredith Heinemann
Mrs. Susan Patterson
Herdershott
Mr. Douglas Saunders Hoff

Dr. Hui Hong
Mr. Yanhe Jin
Mrs. Patrice E. Kahn
Mr. Robert A. Kahn
Mrs. Martha Kington
Mr. Daniel Ladner
Mr. Paul Larmeu
Dr. Ursula D. Lawson
Mr. Nataniel Lewis
Mr. Robert O. Lewis
Mrs. Mary Logan
Mrs. Gloria Loyd
Mr. & Mrs. George Mattson
Mr. Michael G. McKenzie
Dr. Julian McQuiston
Ms. Jenna Robin Miller
Miss Mary Susan Miller
Ms. Rosa-Maria Moreno
Ms. Linda Margaret Neuhofs
Dr. Ruth Nybakken
Prof. James Parr

Mr. Joseph K. Pettigrew
Mrs. Mary L. Riggs-Cuyno
Mr. John G. Rose
Mr. Daniel Rubin
Dr. Barbara Schmidt Rinehart
Ms. Marcia Schoeppner
Ms. Monica Siegel
Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Smead
Mr. Carl Sobocinski
Mrs. Susan Sommers Parsons
Mr. Todd Steiner
Mrs. Robin L. Stone
Ms. Peggy D. Sumpter Whyte
Barry & Jean Thomas
Robert & Lois Vines
Mr. James Stewart Ward
Ms. Janet E. West
Mrs. Marilyn Williams
Mrs. Lynn Raker Wurzelbacher
Mr. Tom Wurzelbacher

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.

To give to the Department of Modern Languages, please make your check payable to The Ohio University Foundation, and designate the Department of Modern Languages in the memo section of the check. Checks can be sent to the following address: The Ohio University Foundation, P.O. Box 869, Athens, Ohio, 45701. You can also make your secure online gift at www.ohio.edu/campaign/online.html using your Visa, Mastercard or American Express.

Ohio University also offers an array of options for making planned gifts, such as charitable remainder trusts, gift annuities, and bequests.

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!

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
- _____ French Language Fund
- _____ French Study Abroad in France
- _____ German Language Fund
- _____ Italian Language Fund
- _____ Russian Language Fund
- _____ Spanish Language Fund
- _____ Language Lab Fund
- _____ Ohio Valley Foreign Language Alliance Fund
- _____ Cameron-Portales Fund (Mexico study abroad)
- _____ M.A. Serna-Maytorena Memorial Scholarship Fund
- _____ Paul Krauss Memorial Fund (Austria study abroad)

You may request back issues of "Say There." Call (740) 593-2749 or email kaaz@ohio.edu.

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit 100
Athens, Ohio
45701

Ohio University
Department of Modern Languages
Gordy Hall
Athens, Ohio 45701

SAY THERE

