After the very successful 2009 alumni reunion, our intention was to get together every five years. We realized this goal nine years later on April 21, 2018 with the same enthusiasm to come to campus more often. The 75 participants, including alums, guests, faculty and staff, enjoyed dinner at Nelson Commons Saturday evening. Special recognition was given in various categories. German and Spanish alums tied for the most attendees. The alum who traveled the greatest distance to return to Athens was Aaron Kahn from England, where he now teaches at the University of Sussex after completing his Ph.D. at Oxford. A special prize was awarded to the alum who had graduated the earliest. Roy Caple earned his BA degree in 1951 with a major in Spanish and minors in French and commerce. After retiring from a business career that took him to many countries, he returned to Ohio University at the age of 81 to pursue an MA in Spanish, which he completed in 2008. Roy participated in our afternoon event that brought together current students and alums who have had professional experiences in which the languages they studied play an important role. We all look forward to the next gathering.

Language Fair Returns to Gordy Hall

On Tuesday, April 11, 2017, the department revived the renowned Language Fair after an almost 20-year hiatus! Eight area high schools brought over 400 students in French, German, and Spanish to campus to participate in the festivities. Students participated in quiz bowls, a talent showcase, virtually roamed the world, met with OHIO language teachers, attended mini-lessons, enjoyed treats from around the world, and took part in many games and other cultural activities. To commemorate the day, students were each given a passport where they collected stamps for each activity they attended. Both teachers and students commented on how much they enjoyed the day and how so many activities were available in such a short time! Check out #oulangfair if you would like to view some of the pictures that were taken throughout the day!
Greetings from the New Chair

Greetings! It is a pleasure to welcome everyone to the latest edition of Say There. As incoming chair, I have inherited a robust, enthusiastic, and active department from Betsy Partyka, who spent the last nine years building us up and moving us forward. While Betsy leaves me with some very large shoes to fill, I am keen to embrace the challenge in true DML spirit!

The department’s overall goal in the next few years will be to strengthen and enhance the undergraduate experience we offer. A top priority will be to complete several initiatives begun during Betsy’s tenure. We currently have three certificate programs in the works – German Studies, Translation, and Creative Writing – and I believe these projects will extend our department's appeal to an even wider audience.

We will also explore other options for broadening our undergraduate student population base. These include online offerings, language instruction for special purposes, literature in translation and hybrid courses, study abroad enhancements, improvements in our communications network and use of social media, and strategic collaborations with other departments and programs.

This is an important time for the university, the college, and the department. With a new provost, a new interim dean, and a new department chair, we will experience a substantial change in leadership. I like to see this moment not as one of uncertainty, but rather as one of opportunity for our department. The terrain is wide open for experimenting, implementing new ideas, and marching still further down the path cut by the chairs, faculty, and students who came before us. I look forward to the journey!

Greetings from the Outgoing Chair

I write to you one last time as Chair of the Department of Modern Languages. Nine years have gone by in the blink of an eye, but I am pleased with all we have accomplished. Through thick and thin we remain united in our passion for travel, our thirst for learning new languages, experiencing new cultures, and keeping languages as an integral part of our curriculum, our lives, and our students’ futures.

The past years have been tough but glorious for the DML. We have seen a number of retirements, but we have also welcomed new faculty to help us move forward with our projects. We have also congratulated faculty regularly as they have been awarded tenure and promotions. We have said farewell to some study abroad programs and welcomed new ones better suited to semesters.

The Halls of Gordy continue to ring with scholarly activities, study abroad venues, and social events. The past two years saw new programs such as the “Takeover of Gordy Hall” with creative presentations and “Oh, the Places You Will Go!” with study away discussions. Last year’s Colloquium featured food, music, and scholarship, and this year sessions about translation and interpreting took us beyond our wildest imagination. An Ecuadorian shaman visited us in August and performed a traditional cleansing ritual, a faculty member from theater spoke to us about German immigration, students and faculty shared their findings from the ACTFL conference, and so much more. We have highlighted some of these activities in Say There for your enjoyment.

As I step down from the chair position of DML, I look forward to Chris Coski’s leadership as the department moves in new and wonderful directions. Thank you for allowing me to participate in the leadership of this stellar department.
Educational opportunities abroad for foreign language students at Ohio University have existed at least since the early 1950s, when the Course Catalogue lists foreign study and exchange programs in France and Spain for the summer and Junior Year. By the mid-60s, in cooperation with Bowling Green State University, the department was offering year-long study abroad opportunities in Tours, France (1966), Salzburg, Austria (1968) and Madrid, Spain (1967). In addition, Winter, Spring and Summer programs were begun in 1967 in Mérida and Jalapa, Mexico. Since then several other programs have been developed, including in Germany, Russia, Italy and South America. During the past half century some programs have changed in format and location, but the goal of providing Ohio University students a cultural and academic experience abroad has remained constant.

Below is a brief description of each the many programs offered.

SA Program Reports 2016-18

AUSTRIA/Salzburg: Nik Sathe

The Salzburg Program is pleased with the continuing growth of our enrollments since the semester transition. With 15 weeks abroad, students have ample opportunities to develop their language skills and to travel independently and on group excursions to Munich, Berlin, and Vienna. A great asset for students remains their Austrian conversation partners, who are organized by our incoming exchange student. Since 2017, the program has added an excursion to the village of Maria Alm, where students visit an elementary school and try their hand at alpine sledding and skiing. Another addition to our plate, literally, is a schnitzel workshop, where everyone gets to make, and eat, their own Wiener Schnitzel. Guten Appetit!

ECUADOR/Cuenca: Carisa Trapp

#1: Language and Culture in Cuenca, Ecuador

In summer 2017 the Department of Modern Languages sponsored an 8-week study abroad program to Cuenca, Ecuador. Twelve students of all levels enrolled in a variety of classes in language, literature and culture and immersed themselves in Ecuadorian daily life by living with a host family. Students participated in cultural activities and excursions to locations throughout Ecuador, including archaeological sites, colonial cities, indigenous communities, the coast and the Amazon forest. This program allowed students the opportunity to greatly improve their abilities in Spanish and return with a deepened understanding of Latin American culture and history.

#2: Teaching English as a Foreign Language in Ecuador

The 2016 TEFL in Ecuador summer program in Cuenca, Ecuador offered students the opportunity to earn
a certificate in Teaching English as a Foreign Language designed for individuals planning to teach English overseas. This intensive, 6-week program was unique in that the on-site practicum allowed students to apply their knowledge in a true non-English speaking environment. Students lived with a host family and participated in weekend excursions, including visits to archaeological sites, artisan communities, colonial cities and the rain forest. The six participants also completed a service-learning project in a rural community in the Andes Mountains.

FRANCE/Grenoble: Dominique Duvert
This year, many new things: our Grenoble program is now offered in summer and offers two options: a one-month program for students who have completed Fr 1120 (available in June or July); and a two-month program for students who completed Fr 2110. Both programs include intensive language classes at the CUEF of Université Grenoble-Alpes in Grenoble. In addition, the two-month program offers culture and literature classes in July.

As in previous years, we have partnered with Academic Programs International (API) since I do not stay on-site for the whole duration. API offers frequent excursions starting with a three-day stay in Paris and visits to Lyon, Marseille, Annecy and more.

New this year: the size of the group with 11 participants (10 of them in the two-month program). Academic highlight: Our students placed very well in their language evaluations! Personal highlights: taking the subway in Paris, seeing Paris from the towers of Notre-Dame or the top of the Arc de Triomphe, eating escargots! And sharing a couscous in Grenoble (one of French people’s favorite meals). There is more to come, more fun, personal growth, mastering the French “r”, and living the language and its culture!

ITALY/Florence: Molly Morrison
During this 6 week program (established 2008), students live in the historical district of Florence, taking intensive Italian language and culture courses, and a literature course on Dante. A vital part of their scholastic agenda includes various in-town excursions to significant historical and cultural places of interest. In addition to their heavy academic workload, students visit museums with lectures on site, learn to make homemade gnocchi from scratch from a professional chef, gain knowledge of winemaking in the Tuscan countryside, put on medieval armour in a villa in the Florentine hills, hike an exciting footpath on the seaside cliffs of the Cinque Terre, and make Italian ice cream in a gelateria. In addition to the usual out-of-town excursions to historical cities and sites, the 16 students in the 2018 program attended an enactment of a gladiator fight (see photo) and visited the catacombs in Rome.
RUSSIA/Moscow (1995-Present)
The program is biannual (last offered in 2016). Originally founded in 1995 by Eloise Boyle and David Mayberry, the program continued under the directorship of Mayberry and Karen Evans-Romaine until 2009, when Vera Belosouva assumed the directorship. Due to Dr. Belosouva’s untimely death, the program was not offered in 2018, but there is every hope that this opportunity will be available to our students in the future.

SPAIN/Toledo (Spring): Keith Woodall
In Spring Semester 2017 and again in 2018, Modern Languages sent intermediate and advanced-level students to study Spanish and related topics in Toledo, Spain for a semester. Participants came from a wide variety of disciplines encompassing 16 fields of study from across the University. The program was expanded to include a 3-day excursion to Madrid and another to Granada with guided visits to palaces, monasteries, monuments, cathedrals and museums. Also added were three nocturnal walking tours through and below the streets of Toledo, guided by local historians, as well as a series of cooking lessons at a local culinary institute. On the academic side, the large number of students allowed for an expanded selection of courses, including The History of Art in Spain, and another on the novel Don Quixote. Both were named as favorites by all who took them. In 2018 another course, Introduction to Linguistics, was added in addition to a guided walking tour through sections of Madrid lived in and frequented by Spanish artists and authors from the Golden Age to the late nineteenth century.

The Spring Semester in Toledo program will be offered again in 2020 as DML seeks to provide a sister program in Latin America every other year.

SPAIN/Toledo (Summer): Nelson Hippolyte
This Study Abroad Program is offered every Summer between May and June by the Ohio University Department of Modern Languages in association with the Universidad Castilla-La Mancha. The advanced-level students have the opportunity to immerse themselves in Spanish language, history and culture during seven weeks; experience life with a Toledo family, meet the locals, and discover Madrid, Segovia, Aranjuez, Cuenca, Consuegra, among other nearby cities.

Toledo is a World Heritage Site by UNESCO because it preserves a stunning Gothic cathedral, thousand-year-old synagogues and mosques, ancient city walls, and mysterious narrow winding streets.

In 2018 the program celebrated 10 years in Toledo. Also, we incorporated a new activity: Cooking Spanish dishes like “tortilla española”, “gazpacho” and “flores manchegas”.

Dr. José (Pepo) Delgado was promoted to Professor of Spanish in 2018. Pepo specializes in 20th Century Latin American literature, the Caribbean, creative writing and theater. For 22 years he has been the co-organizer of the Annual Spanish Spring Colloquium. He teaches all levels of Spanish and has directed multiple study abroad programs in Puerto Rico.

Dr. Muriel Gallego was promoted to Associate Professor of Spanish and granted tenure in 2017. Muriel's scholarship is in Hispanic Linguistics: Sociolinguistics, Language in Contact, and Second Language Acquisition. She supervises the Spanish Graduate Teaching Assistants and is the coordinator for the entire Elementary Spanish Program.

Dr. Mary Jane Kelley was promoted to Professor of Spanish in 2017. Mary Jane specializes in Medieval Spanish literature but also teaches other Advanced and Graduate-level courses. She created a new course on the Franco Era through Film and has been the Graduate Chair for the past few years. Kelley is very active in curricular innovation.

Dr. Adi King was promoted to Associate Lecturer of German in 2017. Adi teaches and coordinates both the 1000- and 2000-levels of German language. He also teaches Business German and other upper-level courses. He researches in German and Austrian literature, Wiemar women authors, popular culture studies and film.

Dr. Joanna Mitchell was promoted to Associate Lecturer of Spanish in 2018. Joanna is interested in Comparative Literature, Spanish and Latin American Literature, and Mexican literature. She teaches Beginning, Intermediate and Advanced-level Spanish courses. She also directed the study abroad program in Mérida, Mexico and initiated a new Service Learning course in Mexico.

Anne Scott was promoted to Senior Lecturer of Spanish in 2018. Anne has been the coordinator for Intermediate Spanish, and she is now going to teach methodology courses and work with the College of Education and our Foreign Language Education majors. Anne also teaches Advanced Conversation and Composition courses as well as Introduction to Hispanic Linguistics.

Keith Woodall was promoted to Associate Lecturer in Spanish in 2017. Keith teaches Intermediate Spanish and Advanced Conversation and Composition courses. In addition, he revived the spring semester Spanish study abroad program in Toledo, Spain and has directed two very successful programs. Keith is also interested in 20th century Latin American and Peninsular literatures.
New Faculty

Dr. María Postigo joined the Department of Modern Languages (DML) faculty in 2017-18 as a Group II Lecturer. She specializes in Translation and Interpreting and teaches Intermediate Spanish courses as well as the Modern Languages courses in Translation. María holds a PhD in Translation Studies from the Universidad de Valladolid and taught in the Canal Winchester, OH school system for many years. She started the Translation Club and is helping to create a Translation Certificate in the DML.

Dr. Ashwini Ganeshan joined the Spanish faculty in 2016-17 as a tenure-track Assistant Professor. She specializes in Hispanic Linguistics and teaches courses at the Intermediate, Advanced and Graduate levels. Ashwini’s research focuses on Lexical Semantics, Syntax, Semantics, Pragmatics and Spanish and General Linguistics. She is creating new courses to add to the Hispanic Linguistics curriculum.

Faculty Accomplishments and Honors


Carmelinda Chilelli: Received the College of A&S Faculty Development Award and Humanities Research Fund Award (2018)

Chris Coski: Elected new chair of the Department of Modern Languages (2018)

Muriel Gallego: Received the Multi-Cultural Center Diversity Award (2017); Granted funding for a Graduate Teaching Certificate (2017, 2018); Awarded Faculty Fellowship Leave (Spring 2018)

Ashwini Ganeshan: Awarded the College of Arts & Sciences Professional Development funds, the Humanities Research Fund, Bruning Teaching fellowship (2017); OURC Research seed funds (2017), Women’s Achievement Award for Social Justice (2017), Untenured Fellow of the Ping Institute (2018)

Melissa Figueroa: Humanities Research Fund Award (2018)

Mary Jane Kelley: Awarded Faculty Fellowship Leave (Fall 2018-19)

Adi King: Member of the German Transfer Assurance Guidelines (TAG) Committee for the Ohio Department of Education.

Amado Lascar: Awarded Faculty Fellowship Leave (Spring 2018)

Betsy Partyka: Appointed Chair of Global Travel Fund and member of the University International Council (2018); Awarded Faculty Fellowship Leave (Spring 2019)

María Postigo: Advisor of new Translation Club; Interpreted for Ecuadorian delegates from PUCE; presented at the DML Colloquium on Translation (2018)

Daniel Torres: Published new book of poetry in Mexico (Poemas Para Leer en la Calle) (Spring 2018)

Keith Woodall: Honored at Newsmakers Gala for media presence during Spain program (2017)
Our Teachers’ Teacher: Barb Reichenbach Retires in 2018

Barb Reichenbach has played a major role in teaching and advising students interested in future careers in education. She taught our methodology courses while at the same time exemplifying outstanding teaching in her own classes. With her guidance, students have participated in outside activities related to language learning. Most notably, she has coordinated our Foreign Languages in Elementary Schools program, which offers Ohio University students the opportunity to share their passion for French and Spanish while gaining experience in the classroom.

Barb first came to Ohio University in 1969 after earning an MA in Spanish and a BS in Education with a minor in French at Kent State University. When her position was terminated in 1975 due to financial constraints at OHIO, she taught French and Spanish full time at Nelsonville High School while continuing to teach language at OHIO in the evening. Upon her retirement from high school teaching, the Department of Modern Languages was pleased to welcome her back to be in charge of our Foreign Language Education program. She was our expert on many aspects of preparing future teachers: mentoring students, explaining licensure, supervising student teachers, conducting countless workshops, and participating in language organizations at the state level. Ohio University recognized her outstanding achievements with two special Recognition Awards in 2006 and 2012, and the Ohio Foreign Language Association recognized her with the Ed Allen Award For Outstanding College World Language Instructor in 2005.

Barb Reichenbach’s experience, expertise, and enthusiasm have made a major contribution to the training of future language teachers. She will be greatly missed by colleagues and students alike. She shared her retirement plans with us: “After teaching for 50 years, it will be quite an adjustment for me, but my husband, Jack, and I plan to continue traveling in our RV, camping in the high desert of Arizona, the Black Hills of South Dakota and the gulf shores of Mississippi. I will really miss teaching but, even more, I will miss my dear colleagues in the Department of Modern Languages and my beloved students.”

An anonymous donor has created the Barb Reichenbach Scholarship for students planning to teach French or Spanish. Please see page 19 if you would like to make a donation.

In Memoriam

Vera Belousova joined Ohio University in 1999 and taught all levels of Russian. She created the Russian Studies Certificate and took students to Moscow for a study abroad experience every two years. She was active with her students in Conversation Hour, Russian Club, and the Russian food festival. Vera earned the equivalent of an American Ph.D. in German and Hungarian literature from Moscow State University. She published articles not only on these subjects, but also on 19th-century Russian literature, her other area of specialty. In addition, Belousova is the author of Russian detective novels, including Prosh’aju tebe moju smert’ (I Forgive You for my Death), Po subbotam ne streljaju (I Don’t Shoot on Saturdays), Zhil na svete rycar’ bednyj… (There lived a poor knight…) and others. She is survived by her husband, Dr. Vladimir Uspenskiy, Professor of Mathematics at Ohio University, a daughter, Anna, a son, Andrey, and a granddaughter, Rakhil. She was not just a co-worker but a friend to all and a beautiful person. She lives on in her children and in our department. She will be greatly missed.
Fred Toner  If I had to sum up in one word what I’ve most enjoyed since taking early retirement in 2016, I’d say “traveling.” Time in itself is a luxury, and I’ve been fortunate that my partner, Don, and I are on the same schedule and that we have been able to cobble out some memorable trips. We just returned at the end of June from China where Don taught a month-long workshop in Ningbo and I worked on some writing projects. We witnessed first-hand the legendary hospitality of the Chinese, especially of some former students, and were feted as kings. I literally brought a part of China back with me (about 10 pounds) thanks to the many banquets in our honor. After the month in Ningbo, we had two weeks of pure vacation traveling on our own to Shenzhen, Hong Kong, Hangzhou, Shanghai, Xi’an, and Beijing. My experience teaching foreign languages may have helped me pick up a little Chinese, but I have to admit that Google Translate was very helpful in those hungry moments facing only Chinese characters. Highlights of our trip include the amazing Terra Cotta Army in Xi’an, the poetic West Lake area of Hangzhou, the Forbidden City in Beijing, and, of course, the Great Wall.

What did I learn in China? There were so many amazing sights and so many startling experiences that I hesitate to say, feeling more dazed than enlightened. It will take some time to digest what I saw and bring my thoughts into focus. There are some curious things that I can tell you, however. For instance, many Chinese do not like the number four. It seems that the sound of that number is too close to the sound of the word “death.” We watched a Chinese friend of ours refuse one hotel room and insist on another because she had been assigned to the fourth floor. The hotel staff didn’t hesitate a minute before assigning another room and didn’t find her hesitation at all surprising. I also learned that there are no stop signs in China. There are stoplights, of course, but not one stop sign. None. Cars simply ease their way onto the busy streets and highways by edging the grill of their car into the mix and slowly and confidently squeezing into the flow. Even so, I didn’t see a single automobile accident during my 6-week stay. As is always the case after a long trip, it was very nice, indeed, to be back in tranquil Athens.

The trip to China was actually our second big “adventure.” To celebrate officially retiring last year, we took an around-the-world, nine-week trip to Qatar, India, Hong Kong, Australia, New Zealand, and French Polynesia. Tahiti and Moorea were highlights for me. Speaking French was not only a pleasure, but also made sightseeing easier and more interesting. Overall, our experience on both trips was wonderful. Still, there were some obstacles to overcome.

In New Zealand Don and I were on our way to see the penguins and the albatrosses. The weather was beautiful, if a little windy, and we set out on a picturesque route along the coastline. The occasional spray of mist from the waves had us driving through rainbows as we weaved our way in the changing light.

(Continued on page 15)
2018: Alex Armstrong, Honors Tutorial College French major, presented his poster of original translations of 19th century French poems at the Expo Research and Creativity Fair.

2018: Peter Andrews, Honors Tutorial College French major, won first place at the Expo for Humanities Outstanding Presentation.

2017: Robert Angelo received the 2016-17 Critical Languages Scholarship in Russian.


2017: Russian language students won awards in Undergraduate Competition (Olympiada) of Spoken Russian: Kristina Denbow, Samantha Jones, Michael Abelev and Russel Gifford.

2018: Angela Romero and Genoveva Di Maggio received the TA Excellence in Teaching Award for their demonstrated teaching excellence after completing the College of Arts & Sciences Advanced Graduate Teaching Certificate program.

2017: German Student Elisa Bergmeier earned an internship with BMW in Greenville, SC.

2018: Spanish faculty and students presented at the Cincinnati Conference on Romance Languages and Literatures: Dr. Melissa Figueroa, Katherine Broughton, Violeta Orozco, Dr. Betsy Partyka, Ariela Parisi, Patricia Serrano, Suzy Aftabizadeh, and Dr. Daniel Torres.

2018: Over 25 Spanish students and faculty attended and presented at the Ohio Latin American Association Conference at The Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio. Highlights included creative readings.

2018: Phi Beta Kappa initiates: Francesca Cappetta, Laura Chase, Elizabeth Gayer, Laura Gilbert, Erica Harman, Alyssa King, Abby Lawrence, Luc Messenger, Andrew Steinke, Paige Wilson.

Fulbright Teaching Awards:

Teaching Awards:
2018: French, Sarah Lenox; Spanish, Genoveva Di Maggio; Spanish, Outstanding MA Award, Irina Lifszyc
2017: French, Natalie Miller; Spanish, Ethel Agbemafo; Spanish, Outstanding MA Award, Carla Consolini

Language Honoraries:

Ursula Feer Farfel Scholarship in Modern Languages 2017: Alexis Shryock

Mary L. Durnion Scholarship
2017: Robert “Alex” Armstrong
2018: Brittany Hawthorne, Payton Wilks

Mary T. Noss Scholarship
2017: Peter Andrews, Morgan Beard, Rebecca Bycofski, Elizabeth Gayer, Anna Marlin

Study Abroad in France
2018: Robert “Alex” Armstrong, Raylin Fetherolf, Megan Tussing

Kirby Study Abroad in France
2018: Sam Smith, Courtney Talbot

Lash and Leete Memorial Scholarship
2017 (French every other year): Simphiwe Shongwe, Adam McConville

Wilkinson Outstanding Graduating Senior in French Award
2017: Klaryssa Seigley
2018: Peter Andrews, Sarah James, Rebecca Bycofski, Adam McConville, Elizabeth Gayer, Adèle Buisset
Colleen Crawford Dillon (BA Spanish 1970, MA Spanish 1975): (From a personal note to Jan) – Colleen lives in West Alexandria, OH, and retired from teaching Spanish at Miami University in Oxford in 2010. She now works each spring at Stockslager’s Greenhouse & Garden Center, and attends weekly sessions of international folk dance at Miami Valley Fold Centers. She had the opportunity to visit Mexico over Christmas and Nicaragua during Holy Week.

Paul Zito (Salzburg 1984):
After 6 years in Toledo as Vice President of International Development RGP Northwest Ohio, Paul’s work is going wonderfully. He frequently travels to Europe, Canada, Asia, in addition to an annual trip to Washington and a few other places in the US. He is currently serving as Chairman of the International Advisory Committee of the IEDC (International Economic Development Council), where the President of IEDC is also a Bobcat, Jeff Finkle.

Shannon Okey (Salzburg 1993):
Shannon is taking her publishing company to the Frankfurter Buchmesse. She is also on the board of the Independent Book Publishers Association and will be helping in their booth, plus trying to find some more companies to buy foreign rights to her books. Her company’s novel Beautiful Wreck was picked up by a German publisher last year.

Karen Gurney – (BA Spanish 1995):
Karen earned a PhD in Economics and Workforce Development policy and is the author of Stacked: Double your Job Interviews, Leverage, Recruiters, Unlock LinkedIn, The Mom Gap, and Career Strategy for Stay at Home Moms.

Michelle Howry (Salzburg 1995):
After two years working at Hachette Books, Michelle is moving to G.P. Putnam’s Sons/Penguin Random House. “It’s a ‘full circle’ moment for me—I started my NYC publishing career there as a summer intern in the ’90s and now I look forward to my role as Executive Editor.”

Jonathan Leal (French BS 1998, French MA 2000):
Jonathan is the owner of Milo’s, a specialty foods manufacturer based in Athens. The company makes Vino de Milo, JB’s Best, and Brownwood Farms brands. The products are sold in specialty stores across the country, and in Canada. He lives in Athens with his husband Barry Tadlock, an Ohio University Political Science professor, and 16-year old cattle dog Geffi.

Megan Stratton Drews (Salzburg 1999):
Megan frequently travels abroad, including Europe and Australia, in her position as International Sales Representative for Rocky Boots.

Gina (Honigford) Towner (MA French 2000):
Gina lives in Milledgeville, GA with her husband and two children, Laura (12) and Nathan (10), and works part-time at Georgia College, teaching elementary levels of French for the Department of World Languages and Cultures and water fitness for the Wellness and Recreation Center. She volunteers in the local public schools, both as a reading tutor and as one of the coordinators of the school district’s recycling program.

Annie Major Urbanek (Salzburg 2000):
Annie is in her 2nd semester as an online graduate student in Health Law at Ohio University.

Meagan has worked in the field of speech recognition for the past 10 years. As a Data Resource Manager at Sensory, Inc, one of her primary functions is to collect the audio data that trains the speech engine. Prior to her role at Sensory, Inc, Meagan was the Language Resource Manager and a member of the speech recognition team at Rosetta Stone for 9 years. Meagan enjoys her fast-paced and satisfying job and loves to interact with languages and linguists and be a part of an emerging technology.
Christophe Corbin (MA French ‘01)
Christophe joined Haverford College in 2017 from the United States Military Academy at West Point where he was Assistant Professor of French. His research focuses on cultural memory; in his book, The Resistance Revisited. A Cultural Journey, due for publication by the end of 2018, he examines the relationship between collective memory and popular culture through the fictional representations of the French Resistance in films, comics and graphic novels, novels, poetry and television, from WWII to the present day. His current book project examines cultural responses from Francophone and French artists to terrorism from the 1940s to the present day. In addition to his teaching and research, he continues to work with study abroad programs in Paris with the University of Pennsylvania and in Avignon with Bryn Mawr College.

Jason Sills (BA French 2001, MA French ’04)
As the Service Unit Manager for AMPLEXOR LLC, a top ten Translation and Localization company, with headquarters in Lisbon, Portugal, Jason manages a team of Project Managers and Project Coordinators who manage translation projects or assist in various aspects of these projects. They translate a wide variety of materials, from user manuals to software and web sites, and can literally translate into any language. Prior to AMPLEXOR, Jason held a similar role at SDL International (another top ten Translation and Localization company), worked as a French-speaking customer trainer for a medical financing company, and worked as an Instructor of French at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

Kathryne Adair Corbin (MA French ’06)
Katie is a Senior Lecturer in French at Haverford College. After completing her BA/BSJ in 2001 and MA at OHIO in 2006, she earned her Ph.D. in French from the University of California, Santa Barbara in 2012. Her research focuses on the intersections of literature and journalism in nineteenth-century France, and her current book project explores the spectacle and style in the works of France’s first woman reporter, Séverine (1855-1929).

Charlie Schwartz (BA French ’06)
Charlie is currently the Associate Director for International Admissions at the University of Cincinnati. “The time I spent in the Modern Languages program instilled in me a passion for global connections, which I have been fortunate to be able to turn into a career.” It also encouraged a love for international travel that is a major part of his life. “My work consistently takes me to Asia - India, China, and Vietnam, especially - and for my recent honeymoon, we traveled to Italy, Greece, Montenegro and Croatia.”

Sarah West (BA Spanish ’05, MA Spanish ’07)
Sarah is working in a tenure-track position in World Languages and Cultures at Northeastern Illinois University in Chicago as an Assistant Professor.

Roger Anderson (BA French ’06, MA, French ’09)
Since 2013, Roger Anderson has taught English as a Second Language in four programs at Ohio State University. He also spent two summers teaching English in Indonesia. He is currently working on his dissertation on the language development of International Teaching Assistants. This summer, he is teaching French at Columbus State Community College, teaching English in Ohio State’s Summer Program for Mexican (EFL) Teachers, tutoring Japanese executives, and mentoring teen boys/young men of a Syrian family through Columbus Refugee & Immigration Services (CRIS).

Alicia Miklos (BA Spanish ’07, MA Spanish ’09)
Alicia is an Assistant Professor at Texas Tech University. Miklos and Suyapa Portillo Villeda published their article, “Central Americans Under Trump: Uncertainty on Both Sides of the Border,” from the LASA Central America Section.

Alicia Buckenmeyer (Spanish Minor ’09)
Alicia earned a PhD from University of Virginia and lives in Charlottesville, VA.
Alumni News, Continued

Tatiana Argüello (MA Spanish ‘10)
Tatiana is an Assistant Professor of Spanish in the Department of Spanish and Hispanic Studies at Texas Christian University. Her article, “War and its Impact on Central American-American Literature,” was published at the Oxford Research Encyclopedia, in Ft. Worth, Texas.

Jacqueline Rigg (Global Studies-European Studies and BA Spanish ‘13)
After Jacqueline left OHIO she moved to NY City and worked at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center in outpatient clinics utilizing her Spanish. She now works for the Spanish Ministry of Education in A Coruña, Galicia. “The program is for language assistants in public schools, it’s called ‘auxiliares de conversación’.” She recommends this program to any Spanish major who is interested in living and working in Spain.

Brian Vadakin (Ecuador ‘13, HTC BA Spanish ‘15)
Brian is the Social Enterprise Coordinator at Rural Action in Southeastern OH and travels the world whenever he can.

Hannah Abrahamson (BA Spanish ‘15)
Hannah published the fifth chapter of her HTC thesis this month with Chasqui and just finished coursework for the PhD at Tulane University. She is scheduled to take comprehensive exams in the fall. She will be in Yucatan for the summer, scouring the peninsula for archival documents from the sixteenth and early seventeenth centuries.

Grace Pauley (BA Spanish ‘16)
Pauley earned a Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship to support her upcoming 10-month research project in Bogotá, Colombia. Pauley, who majored in English and minored in Spanish, finds that the combination of these majors has prepared her for an international research experience. She also has a Global Leadership certificate from OHIO.

Cora Lipscomb (BA Russian ‘17)
Cora has been working at an internship since May. She looks into people’s backgrounds and crimes before the judge sentences them in court. She hopes to attain work in investigation for a few years before beginning an MA program. She continues her Russian through lessons from a tutor. “Right now, we are reading and watching Master and Margarita in its entirety and going through a book of philosophy. It sounds cheesy, but I have made some of my best and closest friends through the Russian program, especially because of study abroad.”

Attention Alums!
We would love to have information about you in this space! Please send us news of your recent personal and professional activities. See page 19 for details.
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At the penguin sanctuary we applauded the efforts of the rangers who were dedicated to the wellbeing of the yellow-eyed birds. We then proceeded to the albatross sanctuary on Tairaroa Head, the headland at the end of the Otago Peninsula. “Craggy” is a good word to describe this dramatic and rugged terrain with steep cliffs overlooking some very powerful sea swells in which gigantic strands of black seaweed endlessly thrash about like a giant squid or octopus in the rocks below. The road up to the “head” was a narrow one, and the drop to the sea below was steep. The wind had picked up considerably by this time so we felt some relief when we reached the parking lot. We hiked out to the opposite side of the promontory to get a view of even more distant waters, but by this time the wind was making it difficult to stand in one place. Suddenly I saw Don running toward the cliff at a sprinter’s pace, chasing his sunglasses that had been blown off of his head. Even more frighteningly, he had had the impression that he was going to be pushed off the cliff by the now really strong wind. We locked arms and pointed ourselves against the wind toward the car and, prying the doors open, wrestled ourselves inside. When the doors slammed shut we were enveloped in a strange silence.

Luckily, on the way down we were on the cliff side, but every turn exposed us to dangerous gusts. And then it began to rain. As we reached sea level, we were confronted with huge puddles created by the monster waves crashing against the side of the road. But our intrepid little Hyundai made it through with both Don and I doing our best to levitate as we drove with the water in the road completely up to its little bumpers.

We limped our way back to the hotel, happy to have survived the trials and thinking that our bad luck had run its course. That wasn’t quite the case, unfortunately, but I’ll have to tell you the rest of the story at another time.
Events 2016-2018

November 9, 2016

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Events 2016-2018

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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: ________________________________________________

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Email Address: ____________________________________________

Language(s) Studied at OHIO: ____________________________________________

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UPDATE:
- Any news about yourself?
- Are you still using your language skills?
- Do you have any special memories of your language experiences that you would like to share?
- Do you know the addresses of any other alumni?

Please include any information below or on a separate page. If you would prefer to respond by email, send your information to Barry Thomas at: thomasb@ohio.edu. Be sure to include “Say There” in the subject line of your e-mail. Thank you.

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