Accent!

DISCOVERING OURSELVES - OTHERS THROUGH EXPLORATIONS IN LANGUAGES, LITERATURES, AND CULTURES

On October 10th this fall, students and instructors representing all the classes offered by LLC, including the team taught LLC 120: Global Crossings course linked to the department’s Living Learning Community, UNCG Global Village, participated in a "smart" flash mob event in Foust Park. In unison, the approximately 200 individuals gathered chanted to the tune of Pink Floyd’s “The Wall” with creatively revised lyrics in several languages to fit the beat.

It was a great celebration of diversity within unity and made all the languages and cultures taught in the department visible across campus and beyond. The mission, to promote greater awareness of the power of languages, literatures, and cultures, to overcome barriers and to bring down walls between people, countries, and continents, was heard by all! A special congratulations to the students of Mercedes Freeman’s Spanish 103 class, who won the Languages Rock flash mob competition!

We do need an education... We do want languages all!”

This fall, our German Program became one of just 25 campus partners nationwide to participate in German Weeks 2012: Think Transatlantic! As part of the campaign, the program hosted a transatlantic speaker series throughout the semester, bringing a variety of guest talks on the topics of race, the German Empire in West Africa, Germany as a geoeconomic power, and the Grimm's Fairy Tales to name a few.

In addition, a team-taught course by Drs. Corey Johnson of the Geography Department and Susanne Rinner of LLC called The Transatlantic Relationship gave students the opportunity to discuss the past, present, and future of the relationship between the United States and Germany. Finally, students participated in several competitions and finalists had the opportunity to travel to Washington, DC to present at a national conference.

Mystery Object for this issue...
Can you guess which culture uses this object and its purpose? Flip to back for answer!
**Fall 2012 Highlight: A Musical Tour of Spain with Maestro Soler**

In September, we were delighted to host one of the world’s most notable guitarists, **Maestro Soler**, also known as “Spanish poet of the guitar.” Francesc de Paula Soler, who was born into a well-known Spanish artistic family, began his musical studies at the young age of 6. He began studying guitar at age 11 and received the highest honors at the prestigious “Conservatorio Superior de Música” in Barcelona, Spain.

Later, he continued his postgraduate work with renowned Spanish classical guitarist Andrés Segovia and was also guided by Narciso Yepes in addition to some of the most important Latin American guitarists. His music has been broadcast in both Europe and the US and he has been honored with multiple awards, including **Tribute of the US House of Representatives (2008)**, Diploma of the Spanish Cultural Association, Boston (**2010**) and Diploma of the Hispanic Institute of Culture, Houston (**2011**).

Maestro Soler stunned us with his magical performance “A Musical Tour of Spain: Literatura y Música Hispana a través de la Historia” at Curry Auditorium on September 21st. UNCG Global Village and LLC students also had the special opportunity to witness his music, myth and poetry in a private recital in the School of Music Organ Hall the night prior to his public performance. It was a very special and memorable musical experience, indeed!

---

**SPOTLIGHT ON STUDENT STUDY ABROAD**

**Hi!** My name is Sarah Wendland. During my semester in Heidelberg, Germany, I visited over five countries, including Italy, Croatia and France. Traveling across Europe tested my ability to be independent and problem solve on my own. Learning languages and cultures has always been a very important part of my life. I believe it is important, especially in today’s world, that everyone gets a chance to experience other cultures and languages. I encourage everyone to study abroad while at UNCG, it really is the chance of a lifetime and an important experience for everyone living in this changing world.

---

**Hi!** My name is John Everhart, and I’ve been living here in Rennes, France for about three months now to study abroad during the first semester of the year. The system is completely different, but I really like daily life in Rennes and I appreciate the opportunity to learn French language, culture, and literature while I’m here!
STUDENT SUCCESS

Congratulations to our December 2012 graduates: Gabriela Nall, Laura Nicholson, Margaret Arky, John Burwell, Jennie Carleo, Ana Falcon, Amber Krusinski, Juliana Melton, Liliana Pastenes, Brenna Riley and Sylvia Wright!

Graduate students in Spanish Rafaela Smith-Fiallo, Claire Woffard, J. Michael Boglovits, Rose Griffin, “Cappy” Cristen Bullock, A. Gabriela Nall, Desirée Schorr and Stephen Valdés presented papers at the 11th Language Learning Series themed “Issues in Second Language Acquisition” on the topics of bilingualism and heritage and second language education.

The Spanish Club had a number of successful campaigns. For the Food Drive, students collected over 130 individual food and hygiene items and $106 for the Triad Health Project!

In the Book Drive, the club collected about 130 books and workbooks for the mothers and children of Greensboro’s Thriving at Three program.

They performed book recordings and helped put voices to 72 books!

Also, for the club’s Pulsera Project, they sold 244 bracelets and raised a total of $1260!

Among the club’s cultural events, the Día de los Muertos celebration culminated in a beautiful altar to honor loved ones who have passed on.

Our Italian students have been participating in Italian Conversation Hour with lecturer Giosuè Scaccianoce at The Green Bean Monday evenings at 6pm!

UNCG alumnus Tom Liles is currently a fellow with the Fulbright Program in Baku, Azerbaijan, where he is researching the potential for desecularization and the politicization of Islam in post-Soviet Azerbaijan. Tom has interned at the Woodrow Wilson Center’s Kennan Institute, the Atlantic Council’s Patriciu Eurasia Center in Washington, DC, as well as the European Centre for Minority Issues Caucasus in Tbilisi, Georgia. He also took part in a US State Department Critical Language Scholarship to study Russian in Kazan, Russia in 2011. Congratulations, Tom!

"Taking Japanese was amazingly fun and challenging. The class is incredibly well organized and makes the language almost easy to learn. Every chapter in the book has vocabulary to memorize along with new grammar. Class was always interesting with lots of chances to practice speaking with your partner. I would recommend anyone to learn Japanese.

日本語 クラスはたのしかったです!"

-Mary Moussa, JNS 102

"I went into Japanese with nothing but an interest for learning about the culture and language, knowing full well the potential for failure in such a complex study. Every class presented me with new challenges and each time I wondered if this was where I was going to hit a wall and go no further. I have learned so much more than I imagined I could in this semester alone, and I’ve had an absurd amount of fun breaking through every challenge with sensei and my classmates. This is the kind of experience that makes you realize what you want to do with your life."

-Joanna Lewis, JNS 102
We say hello to... Giusù Scaccianoece, Lecturer of Italian and Italian Language Coordinator, Brooke Kreitinger, Lecturer of German, Carola Dwyer, Lecturer of German and Faculty-in-Residence of the Living Learning Communities, Wing Shan Ho and Meiqing Sun, Lecturers of Chinese, and Sarah Carrig, Lecturer of Spanish.

Susanne Rinner received a very generous grant from the German Embassy in support of her proposal for German weeks 2012 with the theme "The Transatlantic Relationship." Wir gratulieren, Susanne!

We recognize David Fein for his hard work in the role of UNCG Global Village Coordinator and Carmen Sotomayor for her work as Global Village Associate Coordinator.

We also congratulate Carmen Sotomayor (featured below with instructors Marcia Wooten, Peter Dola, and alumnus Tom Soto) on being the recipient of the Foreign Language Association of North Carolina Teacher of the Year Award in Higher Education at the 2012 FLANC conference in October!

Claudia Cabello Hutt presented her research on Latin American writers of the first half of the 20th century at CSIC in Madrid and the Instituto Internacional de Literatura Iberoamericana in Cádiz, Spain. She also published in Modernist Cultures an article titled "Another ‘Waste Land’: Gabriela Mistral in 1922", which she co-authored with Osvaldo de la Torre.

Congratulations to Colleen Laird on the successful defense of her PhD dissertation: “Sea Change: Japan's New Wave of Female Film Directors,” in November. She earns her degree in East Asian Languages and Literatures from the University of Oregon. おめでとうColleen!

Wing Shan Ho also successfully earned her PhD in East Asian Languages and Literatures from the University of Oregon. Her dissertation examines key contemporary state-sponsored (zhuxuanli) and state-criticized/banned screen products as a way to explore socialist values advanced by the Chinese Communist Party, as well as the ways in which and the extent to which individuals are able to challenge them. 恭喜, Wing!

Brooke Kreitinger successfully defended her PhD dissertation: “The Spatial Imagination of Accelerated Globalization in Contemporary German-Language Novels.” She earns her degree from Georgetown University in German Studies.

Kelly Lowther Pereira, in collaboration with Diego Pascual del Cabo of UFL, presented linguistic research on heritage Spanish speakers of the Triad and Miami Cubans at the Kentucky Foreign Language Conference and the 6th International Workshop on Spanish Sociolinguistics at the University of Arizona.

Tatia Beal and Jackie Daughton were accepted into the College Learning Star Community for 2012-2013. They will meet with a diverse group of UNCG faculty about the Universal Design concept with the goal of implementing it in LLC courses. Their experience will culminate with individual presentations at a conference in June 2013.

Congratulations to Ana Hontanilla, the recipient of the John Carter Brown Library Fellowship at Brown University for the Spring 2013.

We also congratulate Mark Smith-Soto, who won the 2012 James Applewhite Poetry Prize!

Department Head Amy Williamsen's translation of the 17th century play Agravio, by female playwright Ana Caro, was put on stage at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's Howell Theater this fall. Amy worked with director Ian Borden to make the adaptation of this 17th century Don Juan farce enjoyable by an English-speaking audience and the production was a huge success!

A special thanks to our hard-working staff this semester: Kerri Clavette, Lisa Janvari and Marsha Leinhart!

We look forward to upcoming events in Spring 2013 including the Lilly Conference on College and University Teaching to be held February 16th-17th. We also look forward to more successful Global Village events that are scheduled. Please check out the Global Village Events Calendar online at http://www.uncg.edu/llc/calendar/globalvillagecalendar.html for upcoming dates and times! Happy New Year to all!

Mystery Object Revealed...
The bombilla is a filter straw used to drink Yerba Mate, a medicinal and cultural drink of South American origin. This popular, energizing beverage is native to the subtropical forests of Argentina, Brazil, Uruguay and Paraguay.

Languages, Literatures, and Cultures