



ACCENT

VOL. 1.2
SPRING 2012

NEWSLETTER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGES, LITERATURES, AND CULTURES AT UNCG

No one document could possibly capture the spirit behind each of the adventures mentioned in these pages. From the small steps, such as securing interactive computer software in Chinese and Japanese, to the major accomplishments, such as launching a new living learning community, UNCG Global Village, each of these endeavors required the dedication of a talented team of faculty, staff and students.

One of the qualities I most appreciate in our UNCG students is their gratitude. In all my decades of teaching at universities large and small, public and private, I had never encountered students who would go to such lengths to express their thanks. The other day, as I hurried across campus, I was hailed by a student who leapt out of his car. I was concerned there might be an emergency; instead, he exclaimed “I just want to thank you for all you have done ...I received my commission in the Marines!” From the Spanish major who won a prestigious scholarship to study in China to the students for whom we provided directions when they were lost—each has taken the time to thank the faculty and staff who helped them along the way.

Now I want to thank all of you—faculty, staff, students, colleagues, administrators, alumni, community members and friends—who have contributed so much to LLC. Please enjoy this ACCENT ; then take a moment to share your news so we can include it next time!

From our Department Head



From left to right: Erik, Flash, Butterscotch, and Amy

Until then, I wish you all a restorative summer and *bonne chance, buona fortuna, viel glück, buena suerte, Мы желаем Вам успеха, 頑張ってください, and 好运*

AMY WILLIAMSEN

SPANISH CLUB PARTNERS WITH THE CENTER FOR NEW NORTH CAROLINIANS



The students of the newly revived Spanish Club have partnered with the Thriving at Three program (Center for New North Carolinians) in order to work with the Latino community of Greensboro, particularly with underprivileged young children.

After meeting with the coordinator of the program, Angela Guerrero, the Spanish Club decided to undertake two projects this fall: a children's book drive and a volunteer tutoring service. Over 60 books were collected and the students of the Spanish Club have recorded their voices reading them in Spanish and English.

Parents and children were excited when they realized they would get books and audiobooks in English and Spanish.

The volunteer tutoring program for elementary school kids began in March and will continue as part of the Spanish Club's community service activities.

Thanks to all who participated, especially **Marilia del Aguila Montero** and **Victoria Basile**.

Mystery Object for this issue...

Which culture uses this bridal cup? Flip to the end of the newsletter to check your answer.





FOCUS ON FACULTY AND STAFF

David Fein's (FRE) translation of Guyot Marchant's 1485 edition of the *Danse Macabre* has been accepted for publication by the prestigious Arizona Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies. But that is not all, he also published his article "Visiting a Winegrower's House in the Time of Balzac: An inventaire après décès from 1836" in the *French Review* (Dec. 2011).

Ana Hontanilla (SPA) was elected to the MLA Executive Board for 18th and 19th Century Spanish Literature and presented at numerous conferences: Wake Forest U., Brown U., and even here at home at the *UNCG Atlantic World Research Network Colloquium*.

Marsha Leonhart was recognized with the *College of Arts & Sciences Staff Excellence Award* for 2012.

Andreas Lixl (GER) was invited to speak at the College of Charleston's *Addlestone Library* where he presented on the topic of his anthology "Memories of Carolinian Immigrants." He also presented his research on "Migrant Literature" at the *LLC Works series*. Andreas received the UNCG Division of Continual Learning Online Educator Excellence Award.

Cybelle H. McFadden (FRE) presented "Faux Reflexivity: Maiwenn's Camera, the Female Body, and Fake Documentary" at the *20th/21st Century French and*



We said hello to...

Colleen A. Laird is our new lecturer of Japanese Studies. She is working towards a dissertation on "Sea Change: Japan's New Wave of Female Film Directors" at the University of Oregon.

Silvia Tiboni-Craft joined the department as a lecturer of Italian in the fall semester of 2011. She is working towards a dissertation on Italian Women Writers of the 19th and 20th centuries at Rutgers University.

Jing Wu—who joined us as a lecturer of Chinese—holds a Ph.D. in Foreign Languages and Applied Linguistics from the Shanghai International Studies University.

Francophone Studies International Colloquium. She organized the "Gender and Genre Fissures in Contemporary French Female Filmmaking" panel. Additionally, Cybelle gave a paper, "Images, Immigration, and Transnational Crossings in Nadia El Fani's *Bedwin Hacker*," for the panel that **Amy Williamsen** (SPA) organized for the *Transatlantics 2012 Comparative Literature Conference at the University of South Carolina*. **Issa Gakou** (FRE), MA '11,

presented on Senegalese immigration to Spain.

Kathleen Macfie (RUS) presented a paper, "Was I a Communist? Reflections on Black Communism in the Letters of Cyril Briggs" at the *Southern Conference on Slavic Studies*.

Kelly Pereira (SPA) and husband Marcelo welcome the birth of their son **Luca Marcelo Lowther Pereira**.

Susanne Rinner (GER) was awarded the 2011-2012 *UNCG Alumni Teaching Excellence Award* for an untenured faculty member and will be recognized by the

Chancellor during the Fall 2012 opening.

Mark Smith-Soto (SPA) was selected to read in the *Joaquin Miller Poetry Series* in Washington, DC this summer.

In May of 2012, **Silvia Tiboni-Craft** (ITA) will present a portion of her current research at the *American Association for Italian Studies* meeting in Charleston, SC.

We say goodbye to...

Bertrand Landry, who has been with us for five years and, although we will miss him very dearly, we are happy he was offered a tenure-track position in French at the University of Mount Union in Alliance, Ohio.

After two years at UNCG, **Alfonso Varona** has accepted a tenure-track position to teach Spanish at Hampden-Sydney College in Hampden-Sydney, Virginia.

We also say goodbye to **Zhiming Song**, who will be returning to Beijing. We wish you all the best in your future endeavors!

GRADUATE STUDENTS GOING STRONG

Emma Howell (French) presented her paper "The Negritude Movement as Transgression in *Cabier d'un retour au pays natal*" at the Graduate Conference, "Equinoxes." **Monica Scovell** (French) has been accepted into the Ph.D. program in French at UNC Chapel Hill for fall 2012; **Kristin Hilgartner** (Spanish) will start her Ph.D. program in Spanish at UVA, also in fall 2012. **Allison Garrison** (Spanish) will start teaching this summer at Davidson County Community College.



STUDENT SUCCESS

John Everhart (French)—who was awarded the Student Excellence Award this year—received also the NC-AATF John Philip Couch Scholarship to study abroad in Rennes, France during the fall 2012 semester. **Tom Liles** (German, IGS-Russian, and Music), has been awarded a Fulbright to work/study in Azerbaijan for the 2012-2013 academic year. **Felicia Neill** (French), **Laura Parker** (German), and **Carey Griffin** (Spanish), received awards for Outstanding Major. Carey Griffin, and **Philip Keller** (History and German) received the Student Excellence Award, UNCG's highest honor for undergraduate students. **Kelly Donovan** (IGS-Asian Studies; Spanish) has been awarded a CLS scholarship for a summer program in China.

Several of our students have been accepted into very prestigious graduate schools. Some of them will move overseas, such as **Jay Peeler-Dean** (French and Music), who will start his program in ethnomusicology at the University of London. Others will remain close by, such as **Adrienne Deaton** (French and Spanish) who is starting her MA in Spanish at UNC Chapel Hill. There she might cross paths with **Stephanie Pleasants** (French and

Spanish) who has been accepted into the competitive TransAtlantic Masters Program at UNC Chapel Hill. **Henry Hilston**, who completed Honors in Russian and Art History, has been accepted to graduate programs at Notre Dame and Yale University.



THE ACCENT ON... FOOK-LIM ANDREW CHUNG

My name is **Fook-Lim Andrew Chung**. Many people just call me Andrew. I grew up in Germany, where I lived for more than sixteen years. Growing up there, I learned how to speak German and English. At the age of sixteen, my family moved to the USA.

After finishing “Realschule” in Germany, I still had two more years to finish in order to apply for college. In the end I decided to attend UNCG to study International Business, Marketing, and German.

I had a hard time understanding and writing in English when we moved to the U.S. Even though I learned in the textbook how to speak and write in English, it cannot be compared with the real life situation.

Last semester, I received an email from my German professor that a company was looking for foreign language speakers. When I read the email, I thought that the job opening was perfect for me. I wanted to practice my German in this company. Although I know German, I was

never able to use my German skills in a professional work environment and this job opening was the perfect opportunity for me. After applying there, I received an offer. The job primarily required me to call different companies around the world, including companies in the U.S., Germany, and China, to request a statement of account.

A month or so later, I was able to call companies in Germany. Using the textbook knowledge I learned during my college year and the knowledge I acquired when I lived in Germany, I was able to overcome the obstacle in talking with professional German employees.

GLOBAL VILLAGE PROMOTES LANGUAGES, LITERATURES, AND CULTURES AT UNCG

In Fall 2012 UNCG will open the “Global Village”, a Living and Learning Community that will benefit first year students studying French, German, Italian, Japanese, Russian or Spanish who wish to improve their language skills and explore the culture of languages with which they are less familiar. Under the guidance of native-speaking students living in the dorm, students will actively engage with other cultures as they



improve their language abilities. Six language facilitators have been hired for the first year: two Americans, one student from Japan, a heritage speaker of Italian, a student from Panama, and one from Senegal. Facilitators and students will also participate in various events with an international focus and interact with faculty of international literatures, languages, and cultures.



Highlighted Spring Activities

Corporations and Human Rights in Latin America



International Law Professor Miguel Taboada (University of Castilla-La Mancha, Spain) visited UNC Greensboro in March.

First, he presented his experience as a Human Rights activist in his talk “Multinational

Corporations and Violations of Human Rights in Latin America.”

The next day, at Café Olé, students were engaged with stories of courageous women who struggle for their dignity and rights in the High Planes of Guatemala.

Miguel Taboada, Professor of International Law and Human Rights NGO Worker, addresses students during “Café Olé”.

Русский Спектакль, A Celebration of Russian Studies

The Russian Language Society, Russian Studies faculty, and the students from the Russian classes at UNCG hosted the annual Русский Спектакль, on Friday, April 13.

The Spektakl is a celebration that focuses on the achievements of students in their study of Russian language and culture. Students performed skits, songs, riddles in Russian, and a presentation about Russian food under the direction of **Yekaterina Colon**, lecturer in Russian. After a drawing for door prizes, the 80 attendees enjoyed a meal of Russian food, including

traditional Russian soups—borshcht and shchi—along with piroshki, vinaigrette, dark bread with kielbasa and cheese, eggplant caviar, pickled mushrooms, and a fruit pirog for dessert!

Five new student members were inducted in the Alpha Nu Chapter of Dobro Slovo, the National Slavic Honorary Society, on Friday April 13th. **Sabina Averin**, **Jarrett Hanks**, **Nathan Myers**, **Steven Bixby** and **Timothy Smith** were recognized for their achievements in the study of Russian.



Senior Constance Thomas (IGS, and Russian student)

DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGES, LITERATURES, AND CULTURES

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...this cup...
the couple who drinks from
good luck that awaits the
love, faithfulness and the
cup remains a symbol of
and to this day, the bridal
(from p. 1) In Germany,