



ACCENT!

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

LLC Celebrates Chinese New Year: Year of the Monkey

The annual **Chinese New Year Reception** on February 12 hit a new record this year: 207 attendees signed in, packing the Faculty Lounge to capacity. The enormous turnout is in part due to collaboration with **IGS, IPC, Interlink, and New Mind Education**. Aside from the main celebration with performances and arts and crafts tables, there was a dumpling making workshop held in an overflow room.



There, Chinese exchange students taught everyone how to make Chinese dumplings from scratch, squeezing each one to a nice, crescent, pleated shape. Afterwards, the group boiled the dumplings in MHRA kitchen to taste them right away. The celebration was a joyful, festive occasion, drawing crowds that will have to be accommodated in a much larger venue next year in light of this overwhelming success!

GLOBAL CELEBRATIONS & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

We were delighted that our **Global Village** was one of four universities that had their programs recognized (others included Rutgers and ILSU) by the ACTFL in San Diego. The most amazing part is that our program will be featured on their website for the next three years!

“Europe and Other Fortresses in a Borderless World” was the topic of this year’s Ashby Dialogue organized by **Brooke Kreitinger** and **Susanne Rinner**. The current

refugee crisis, its socio-political repercussions and representations in the media and arts were at the core of the Ashby Dialogue.

Russian classes along with the Russian Language Society (RLS) hosted our annual celebration, the **Spektakl'**, where students performed skits and presentations, poetry and song! It was a great party and a wonderful opportunity to celebrate our terrific students. The festive event was concluded with food and a raffle!



Mystery Object for this issue...

Can you guess the cultural significance of this item? Find the answer at the end of the newsletter!



It was the second time the **Tournées French Film Festival** was held at UNCG. The Tournées Festival is an annual event sponsored by the French American Cultural Exchange in partnership with the Cultural Services of the French Embassy for the purpose of promoting the French language and Francophone culture as it is portrayed by the film industry of France. We would also like to extend a very big thanks to **Roberto Campo** for his work in organizing the event, and all those involved in making it a success!

We were delighted to host **German Weeks** to celebrate 25 years of German Unity. With a series of lectures from international scholars, whose visits to the UNCG campus were facilitated by a grant from the German Embassy, we discussed socio-cultural changes in culture and politics in post-1989 Germany.

Once again we celebrated the **International Fest** with music, food, and performances representing the numerous cultures that live and learn together on our campus. Among the multitude of booths, there was also representation of all languages taught in our department.



FOCUS ON STUDENT AND FACULTY ENGAGEMENT



Two of **Sarah Carrig's SPA 315 students** were the subject of an article in an issue of *Que Pasa*. They had written very good essays about the effect of globalization on multinational workers, and the editor of the paper stated that he would be willing to publish them. What resulted was an article in the paper about the students, with their full essays published on the paper's Web site.

German major **Dafne Sanchez** joined **Susanne Gomoluch** to present at the 87th SAML A Convention in Durham last November. Her presentation, "Hysterical Imagination and the Beautiful Soul" was a great success, and Dafne was invited to present at the 10th Annual Thomas Undergraduate Research and Creativity Expo at UNCG.

We are also extremely happy about **Allison Odom's** presentation at the Philological

Association of the Carolinas' conference this March in Charlotte, where she did an amazing job. She was the only student on the panel (*below left*)--or in the room, for that matter--and she handled herself with aplomb. Congratulations, Allison. You really did our department proud!



STUDENT & ALUMNI EXCELLENCE



Rachael Segal, majoring in International & Global Studies with a concentration in Asian Studies, has received the U.S. Department of State's competitive Critical Language Scholarship for study this summer at the University of Shiga Prefecture in Hikone, Japan. She looks forward to returning to Japan to renew friendships she made while studying at Ritsumeikan University in Kyoto last year

through UNCG's Study Abroad Program. Ms. Segal, also a Gilman Scholarship recipient, just took top honors at Greensboro's first annual Japanese Speech Contest, held this April at UNCG. Her prize-winning speech focused, not surprisingly, on the opportunities study abroad programs offer for learning, firsthand, about the diverse people and cultures that share our world.



Jordan Griffin, one of our students of Chinese who studied abroad at Fudan University in Shanghai for one year, won the 2016 NC Chinese Speech and Writing Contest in advanced level as 1st Place Winner on April 9th. He won championships in both writing and speech sections.

Rikki Love Deshaies recently achieved her National Board Certification for Early Adolescence Through Young Adulthood in World Languages. She credits her preparedness to enter the classroom to the various internships, rigorous studies, and excellent mentors in the North Carolina Teaching Fellows and language programs at UNC Greensboro. In 2014, Rikki graduated with a Masters degree in Foreign Language and Literature from North Carolina State University and presented at SCOLT (Southern Conference on Language Teaching) in Atlanta Georgia in 2011. She is currently teaching middle school Spanish in Chatham County Schools and is in her sixth year of teaching.

Geoffrey Harris, December 2014 graduate in Spanish and Asian Studies. Shortly after graduating, he was accepted into the Japanese Exchange and Teaching (JET) Program, a highly competitive program for college graduates, in which its members live and teach English anywhere from one to five years in Japan. Geoffrey will be teaching in the town of Tadotsu located in the Kagawa Prefecture. During his time at UNCG, he spent the 2012-2013 academic year abroad in Granada, Spain.



Kelly Donovan (featured above with *Geoffrey Harris*), graduate in Spanish and Asian Studies, was the recipient of a Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship in Taiwan for the 2014-2015 year.

While at UNCG, she founded a chapter of the humanitarian group Students Helping Honduras and spent seven months studying in China. After graduating from UNCG's graduate program, she enrolled at Elon University School of Law and graduated, cum laude, with a Juris Doctorate degree. She has since passed the bar exam and is now a licensed attorney. Bravo, Kelly!

We have also learned that one of our alumni, **Mary Blythe Daniels**, was recognized as Professor of the Year in Kentucky--our heartfelt congratulations to her!

Michael Boglovits joins the PhD Program in the Spanish Department at UNC-Chapel Hill this fall. We wish him best of luck!

French major alumna, **Esha Grover**, has completed an MA in Political Science at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and currently has an internship at Voice of America's French to Africa division in Washington, D.C.



It is with pride that we announce that the whole language department at Southern Alamance High School is composed of UNCG alumni! Featured above are **Carey Griffin** (SPA), **Allen Tomlinson** (SPA), **Cristen Bullock** (SPA), and **Maria Yandell** (FRE) with Prof. **Marcia Payne Wooten**.

Kristin Hilgartner (above) sends greetings from the University of Virginia, where she is working towards her PhD and teaching Spanish. She received her MA from UNCG and is now preparing for her comprehensive exams. *Buena suerte!*

Jonathan Tittle graduated from the Spanish MA program at UNCG in December 2011. Recently, he was accepted into the Spanish Literature PhD program at Indiana University Bloomington, where he intends to study contemporary Latin American literature with a minor in literary theory. *Felicidades*, Jonathan!



FOCUS ON LLC FACULTY



Chiaki Takagi is once again making big news. To acknowledge the teaching award she received from the American Association of Teachers of Japanese last year, the Japanese Consul General, Kazuo Sunaga, visited with Chiaki Takagi in early fall.

David Fein's new article "The Scotsman's Fearsome Sword: Political Subtexts in a Fifteenth-Century Nouvelle" was published in the March issue of *The French Review*.

In March, *Neophilologus* published **Ben Davis'** article "Female Masculinity and Strategies of Resistance in Daniel Caspar von Lohenstein's Epicharis and Cleopatra."

Guyène Deasy completed the training process to become a certified tester for the American Council on The Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL). She received her ACTFL certification in August 2015.

Carola Dwyer was elected as Vice-President, then President (2016-2020) of the NC AATG chapter! Her willingness to serve in this capacity further strengthens

the leadership role UNCG's German Program has in the German teaching profession.

After receiving the Teaching Excellence Award for a junior faculty member last year, **Claudia Cabello Hutt** is the recipient of the university-wide 2015-2016 James Y. Joyner Award for Teaching Excellence.

Ignacio López Alemany was selected to become an "appointed researcher" for the International Research Group IULCE at the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid (Madrid, Spain). This interdisciplinary research group is funded by the Spanish Government and the European Union.

This year's Above and Beyond Award winners are **Ben Davis, Judi Labath,** and **Laura López** for their outstanding commitment to our students.

Susanne Rinner, Veronica Grossi, and **Cybelle McFadden** received research assignments. We will miss you, but we are looking forward to hearing more about your research projects!

Congratulations to all of our wonderful faculty!

We say hello to...

We were very lucky to welcome many new faces to our department this year! **Judith Labath** and **Detoine Williams** joined us to strengthen the growing ASL Program. **Larissa Denk** is this year's Austrian Fulbright Language Teaching Assistant in the German Program. She has kept German *Kaffeestunde* buzzing and has delighted us with *Apfelstrudel* and movie nights. **Michael Boglovits, Jessica Bennett, Liliana Lira-Rivera** and **Nodia Mena** joined the Spanish Program. **Rachel Hill** also joined our department last summer and has made herself indispensable ever since. A very warm welcome to all of you!

We say goodbye to...

However, we are very sad to let other colleagues go. We are saying goodbye to **Susanne Gomoluch, Marcia Payne Wooten** and **Alice Hill**. Last week, a celebration honored Alice's 31 years of devotion to UNCG. Those gathered remarked upon her lasting contributions to our campus and our community. In addition, she was awarded the "Order of the Long Leaf Pine," one of North Carolina's highest honors, recognizing her lasting legacy to language education in our State. We wish each of you the very best, and you will all be greatly missed. Please be sure to stay in touch!

Mystery Object Revealed...

The *lamellophone*, also known as a *linguaphone* (from the Latin root *lingua*, which means *tongue*), is a thumb piano of African origin.



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