



ACCENT!

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

LLC Celebrates Chinese New Year: Year of the Rooster

The 2017 **Chinese New Year Festival** gathered approximately 600 participants including students, faculty, staff, and community members. The Chinese New Year Celebration is an annual event organized by our department's Chinese program with the intention of bringing different cultures together promoting cultural exchange, peace and reconciliation.



All involved enjoyed diverse cultural presentations, demonstrations of traditional games and representative

performances. Participants also engaged in ongoing activities including New Year crafts and the opportunity to make traditional dumplings with members of the international community. The presentations, games and performances were mostly offered by the students of our Chinese program, who made the festival exciting, educational and culturally enriching. This event created opportunities for students to come together with the local community to celebrate and share their rich cultural heritages with everyone on the campus. Each and every participant helped to make this year's Chinese New Year celebration a spectacular success!

German Campus Weeks 2016

On Friday, November 4, 2016, LLC's **German Program** hosted a one-day symposium titled "Germany Meets the U.S.: Is the Transatlantic Relationship Still Relevant?" UNCG German Program alumni spoke about the value of German

Studies for their current professions. Scholars from UNCG as well as from other institutions near and far shared their research on the historical and contemporary significance and relevance of the Germany-U.S. relationship.



Mystery Object for this issue...

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



The **Office of International Programs** co-sponsored the day's events. UNCG German students also participated in Campus Competitions in conjunction with German Campus Week. Several students presented posters they had created on the topic of "My Connection to Germany" while other students wrote essays or gave speeches on their connections to the country and the language. Thanks to all students and faculty who helped make this day a great success!



FOCUS ON STUDENT AND FACULTY ENGAGEMENT



Sarah Carrig and a group of student leaders presented "Brown Is the New White: Moving Toward Unity and Representation," a colloquium to address concerns about interracial and intercultural tensions that engaged over 100 participants, including students, faculty, and staff. A follow-up program drew on current events, history, and the participants' own experiences to consider how far we still we have to go to build unity across differences. **Tatia Beal** and **Laura López** assisted with these events.



Karen DeNaples (*above right*) and **Judi Labath** attended the National Deaf Women of Color Conference at Guilford College along with UNCG student **Carly Springs**. Carly is a psychology major and ASL minor whose attendance was sponsored by Judi. The conference addressed issues of oppression and survival with information on various topics including finances, domestic violence and sexual assault (especially as these pertain to immigrants), Native American students' limited resources at state universities, and other relevant issues.

and **Detoine Williams**

(*below*) worked with a handful of students to develop activities and displays. We thank **Alexis Cunningham**, an ASL student, for her work on the displays. We are grateful to all faculty, staff and students who participated in this signature event. Way to go, LLC!

LLC was well-represented this year at the **International Festival**—every language participated with culturally-rich, interactive presentations. In addition to long-time favorites, this year, for the first time ever, **ASL** had a booth. **Karen DeNaples, Judi Labath,**





STUDENT & ALUMNI EXCELLENCE



Tyra Callaway was named a Young Ambassador by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) for 2016/2017. This program honors students who have studied, researched or interned in Germany by selecting them to serve as liaisons for DAAD in the U.S. and Canada.

Christina Canon was recently accepted into the TAPIF program to teach English abroad and placed into her top choice of La Réunion.

Dereke Clements, who minored in French at UNCG, has been involved in efforts to preserve the house of James Baldwin in Provence, France. He is one of the leading members of the group known as His Place in Provence.

Walter Gay has been accepted to the Master's program of the Center for Slavic, Eurasian and East European Studies at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. Walter studied International Global Studies and Russian studies at UNCG.

Dzidzor Gborglah, who minored in French at UNCG, received her Master's degree in Communication and Media from Audencia SciencesCom in Nantes, France. She also obtained a position with Pernel Media in Paris as a production assistant.

Ian McKenzie has accepted an offer for a Master's and PhD program with full funding at Rutgers University, beginning in fall 2017.

Alexis Shaw was featured as one of the UNCG profiles and will be graduating this year. Alexis is an International and Global Studies major and member of UNCG's Lloyd International Honors College. She has also studied abroad in Moscow.

Carmen Calhoun has received a Fulbright scholarship for the upcoming academic year in Brazil. She presented her research, "The Representation of the Revolutionary Dimension of Popular Music: Tropicália in the Latin American Mass Media" at both UNC and the Kentucky Foreign Language conference.



The **2nd Annual Greensboro Japanese Speech Contest** was held on Saturday, April 15th. Japanese language students from UNCG, Wake Forest University and High Point Central High School delivered their original speeches in front of a panel

of four judges and an audience of over 100 faculty, friends and family members. Congratulations go to **Alex Marihew, Jiangxue Chen, Adam Bowers, Alexia Barnes, Diana Lang, and Kate Larson** for placing in the competition!

The **German Program** welcomed eight new members into UNCG's chapter of the National German Honor Society. Congratulations to **Juliet Furst, Devyn Garrison, Janean Goodlow, Matthew Hellenbrand, Bethann Odell, Molly Tate, Nina Rominger, and Katelyn Welker** on all your accomplishments! The program included a discussion on the differences between the German and U.S. higher education systems. **Tyra Callaway** (*above*) and exchange student **Sven Stauder** led the discussion.





FOCUS ON LLC FACULTY



Claudia Cabello Hutt published two articles this year: “Identidades artísticas modernas y alianzas transatlánticas: Maruja Mallo, Gabriela Mistral y Victoria Ocampo” in *Ínsula. Revista de Letras y Ciencias Humanas* and “Las mal ubicadas: intervenciones en la modernidad en la prosa de Alfonsina Storni y Gabriela Mistral” in *Meridional. Revista Chilena de Estudios Latinoamericanos*.

Brooke Kreitinger (*center right*) was awarded the 2016 German Embassy Teacher of Excellence Award by the American Association of Teachers of German (AATG) at the annual ACTFL conference.

Nodia Mena was named by the Garifuna Coalition as one of the ten most influential Garifuna women. The Garifuna Coalition serves as a resource, forum, and advocate for Garifuna issues and the Garifuna community.

Jane Mitchell, a professor emerita, received the Order of the Long Leaf Pine, which is awarded to those

who have made a significant impact on the state of North Carolina through service to the community. She taught for 38 years at UNCG.

Roch Smith, a professor emeritus, published a revised and updated edition of his 1982 book, *Gaston Bachelard: Philosopher of Science and Imagination*.

Congratulations to all of our wonderful faculty!



We say hello to...

Brenda Ross (SPA), **Karen DeNaples** (ASL) and **Brooke Shafar** (GER). Welcome to our department! We look forward to working with you all next year!



We bid a fond farewell to...

Two international-bound members of our German program: **Jonathan Tillotson**, who is leaving us to teach English in Japan and **Parya Bahkshandeh**, who returns to Austria after completing her year as a Fulbright Language Teaching Assistant at UNCG.

LLC celebrated the contributions of two retiring faculty members at the festive Spring Social enlivened by music and dancing, featuring memorable performances by talented Flamenco faculty from Spanish (Carmen Sotomayor, Mariche Bayonas, Mercedes Freeman, Wendy Jones Worden and her daughter Tamara) and Nodia Mena’s solo rendition of a traditional Garifuna dance.

Maria Schilke, a graduate of our own MA program who went on to teach for over a decade in our Spanish program, plans to perfect her Polish after retirement. Colleagues paid tribute—in poetry, prose and song—to

David Fein’s illustrious 41-year career at UNCG as a devoted educator, innovative scholar and talented administrator. Perhaps one of the biggest surprises of the evening was the revelation that David has completed his novel entitled *Professor Pinkleton’s Secret Seminar*. Because of his legacy of service, he was honored with the Order of the Long Leaf Pine at the official College ceremony.

Mystery Object Revealed...

The *bota* bag is a commonly used object in Spain. Generally made of goat skin with a waterproof finish, it is a type of canteen that is typically used to carry wine.



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