

The News

Die Nachrichten

Le Notizie

お知らせ

As Novidades

Les Nouvelles

НОВОСТИ

Las Noticias

ニュース



Volume XI

Newsletter of the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures
University of North Carolina Wilmington

Spring 2011 • www.uncw.edu/fll
An EEO/AA Institution

Chair Letter



As I watch the dark cumulus clouds of budget cuts looming on the next academic year horizon, I am concerned. The fall 2011 schedule is entered into the computer system, waiting for preregistration to begin – but we were not able to offer as many sections as we did last fall. There are so many unknowns facing us at this point in time, but I am confident that our faculty will continue to offer high quality language instruction, will continue to bring innovative programs, will continue to support students as mentors and advisors, and will do all of the above with élan and gusto. On the other side of the coin, there is no dearth of good news, as enrollments are rising in all languages. Student interest in study abroad is strong, and the number of students choosing to major in French, German and Spanish is growing. We are excited at the announcement of the new international studies major which begins accepting students this fall. This interdisciplinary major will draw on many of our courses and will enhance opportunities for our students. The monumental change coming to our

campus next year is the implementation of University Studies, a long-awaited revision of basic studies requirements for all students. This revision will increase the foreign language requirement from one course at any level to the intermediate level of a language. This change is a testament to UNCW's commitment to the goal of preparing students as global citizens. Preparing for this change in curriculum has consumed a great deal of our faculty's time and energy this past year, and we look forward with anticipation to a greater role for foreign language in the education of our students.

One result of this change is an expansion of the languages we offer, especially those that are not part of a degree program: Portuguese, Russian and American Sign Language. While this is a challenge, we are turning to the wider resources in the UNC System by developing consortial arrangements to expand our offerings. The Russian Studies Consortium began operations this year and, for the first time, we were able to offer intermediate Russian to our students through UNC Charlotte. This year we submitted our proposal to create a Consortium for the Portuguese-Speaking World. Through these collaborations we may be able to offer degree programs.

Our faculty and students continue to be recognized by the university for their accomplishments: Caitlin Walsh, Spanish and environmental science major, was named 2010-11 Student Global Citizen

by the Office of International Programs; professors Valerie Rider and Marianella Jara were recognized for teaching excellence with the Discere Aude Award. Emmanuel Harris II was awarded a research reassignment to complete his book project, *Scribes of the Orisha: African Gods in Contemporary Hispanic Fiction*, and he received a UNCW mini-grant to fund a research trip to Cuba. Olga Trokhimenko is a recipient of a Summer Pedagogy Initiative Grant for her proposal "Past, Present, Future: What You Need to Know Before You Study in Germany," which will be taught through the UNC German Studies Consortium in fall 2011. Trokhimenko received the most important university recognition with the awarding of tenure and promotion to associate professor. Joining her with this distinction is Amanda Boomershine. We congratulate them on this career accomplishment. You will find in the following pages, the accomplishments of our entire faculty this past year as well as the activities and achievements of our students through the language programs and clubs.

Finally, I would like to say goodbye to one of our own. Mary Watts has decided to leave UNCW at the end of this year. Watts is a masterful teacher and a dedicated advocate for the students. In her years here, she has contributed greatly to the training of future students of Spanish and French, and we will miss her greatly.

FRENCH PROGRAM

- Some of the recent additions to the French Program's upper-division curriculum include French Immigrant Narratives, Spaces of the Francophone World, and Gender and Sexuality in French Cinema, a course taught in collaboration with the UNCW Women's Studies and Resource Center.



- Pi Delta Phi, the National French Honor Society, inducted numerous student members in 2010. More than 347 universities in the United States have chapters of the honor society.
- The UNCW French Club, advised by Caroline Hudson, hosted an information table at the annual Involvement Carnival, held conversations in French, film viewings, pot-luck dinners, and gatherings in various places in Wilmington and conducted a fundraising bake sale.
- Our section's fruitful correspondence with the French minister of cultural services continues. Michelle Scatton-Tessier is connecting with a new program from the New York City Bureau du Film to bring recent French films, previously unreleased in the U.S.
- Students of French participated in a variety of independent research projects that involved faculty.
- UNCW students participated in several study abroad programs in France in order to master French, gain cross-cultural competency and become global citizens. Our students chose among an exciting palette of summer programs, semester- and year-long programs, as well as the two-year TABSA program at Euromed in Marseille which offers the possibility of earning a dual degree from UNCW and from our partner institution in France.
- The UNC Consortium Program in Paris, organized by UNCW for more than two decades, offers the following courses in French language at the Sorbonne, Paris: Capital of World Cinema, 19th and 20th Century French Art and Literature, and French Political Science.
- Students of French have also studied abroad at French universities in Montpellier, Le Havre, Angers, Caen, Chambéry, Cannes, Aix-en-Provence and Tours.
- Recent graduates of the French program were chosen to pursue advanced degrees in law and the health sciences (medical school, pharmacy school, nursing and speech pathology) and the humanities (English, French, Spanish, history, art history and student affairs). Others have begun a career with import-export businesses, the U.S. government and the U.S. military. Numerous graduates are working overseas as high school teachers in France and as Peace Corps volunteers in French-speaking countries.

THE GERMAN STUDIES PROGRAM

- The German section has remained as active as ever. We continue to encourage and facilitate education abroad. Last summer's study abroad program in Bremen, led by Derrick Miller, was an unprecedented success. The participants toured Bonn and the Rhine River Valley and then enrolled in intensive language courses in Bremen. Miller is recruiting students for the program this summer.
- The number of our majors has increased dramatically, demand for our introductory courses continues to outpace our ability to offer them and enrollments in higher-division courses keep increasing.
- We continue to make innovations in our curriculum. Our intermediary students receive more exposure to German culture and more opportunities to write before going on to advanced course due to a new course (GER 301), taught by Miller. We participate in the UNC German Studies Consortium, through which students at UNCW and other schools in the UNC system take German seminars together online, in real time. In spring 2010, Miller taught a new seminar on representations of the Americas in German literature, film and historical documents. In addition, we have begun implementing a new assessment program to better evaluate how well our program is meeting its goals. Miller and Olga Trokhimenko presented their new initiative on effective grading strategies at the November meeting of the Cape Fear Foreign Language Collaborative and are work to publish their results.

The German Club (Der Deutsche Club)

The German Club is in its official second year and continues to grow under the leadership of president Jasmine Griffith. Since last fall, the club has expanded and been very active. We have continued with our weekly informal conversational "coffee hour" (kaffeestunde), which meets from 3 to 4 p.m. every second Wednesday in the Randall Library café. The conversational hour alternates with a movie night, providing students the opportunity to listen to German one week and practice speaking the next. The club also organized two picnics (a German picnic in September and an international picnic in November) and participated in several university and community events, including the multi-cultural America week.

GERMANS

We will not be silent. We are your bad conscience. The White Rose will not leave you in peace!

LEAD THE WEISSE ROSE MOVEMENT...

On all sides one hears Hitler's opponents' exclamations of despair, often ending with the question: "Will Hitler now, after all...?"

Do you want to suffer the same fate that befell the Jews? Do you want to be judged by the same standards as your seducers?

SACRIFICED THEIR LIVES PROTESTING HITLER

Es lebe die Freiheit! Long live freedom!

PORTUGUESE LANGUAGE AND BRAZILIAN STUDIES PROGRAM



A Brazilian and a premier Latin American scholar, **Idelber Avelar** was the keynote speaker of the 58th annual meeting of the Southeastern Council of Latin American Studies hosted in March by UNCW. He presented his new research during a talk titled "Masculinity, Fatherhood, and Paranoia in Contemporary Argentine and Brazilian Fiction." Idelber Avelar. His ability to ingeniously combine European, American and Latin American philosophies creates incisive analyses of pressing issues in Latin America and, as a result, he is now one of the most sought-after speakers in his field. In particular, his research places Brazilian issues in dialogue with the rest of Latin America, evidencing the fact that Brazil is one of the largest economies in the Americas and presents one of the most diverse populations amongst its neighbors.



The Portuguese Club

Brazuka, the Brazilian Club advised by Regina Félix, put together a different *Taste of Brazil* this year, traveling to Myrtle Beach to Rioz, a Brazilian churrascaria (or steakhouse). Thanks, friends of *Brazuka*! Thanks, OIP! We will repeat the visit.



Bate Papo, the Brazilian table at UNCW, continues to meet at El Cerro Grande, gathering students, professors, local professionals, Brazilians and lovers of Brazil for a chat in Portuguese, English, Spanish or a mixture of it all!

RUSSIAN

UNCW was unable to offer any Russian courses on campus in fall 2010, but this spring new instructor David Graber taught two sections of Russian 101, and he is hopeful that the program will grow over time. There are two developments of interest: Graber is in the process of creating an online exchange between UNCW students taking Russian courses and Russian students of English at South Ural State University in Chelyabinsk, Russia, using video clips, chat and Skype. Also, several enthusiastic students banded together in the fall to form a new Russian and Eastern European Club—a high point of that first semester of the club's existence was a Russian dinner the members organized and prepared that culminated in apple bliny smothered in sour cream.



Spanish Club

Between helpful, caring service to the community and activities that are just plain fun, it's a wonder that Spanish Club members can catch their breath.

Below is just a sample of events that went into this busy year for faculty mentor Marianella Jara and the Spanish Club:

More than 20 UNCW students competed in a taco eating contest outside Fisher Student Center in October. The club raised \$150 for Das's bilingual reading program, which as a result, was able to purchase bilingual books for children at three different locations/schools. At Pine Valley Church on Dec. 6, Spanish Club president Jessica Hutchison personally delivered 30 bilingual books to three Hispanic families.

Also in October, the Spanish Club held a car wash at McDonald's on Military Cutoff Road, raising \$130 in three hours.

Spanish Club members are always on the lookout for lively activities which focus on cultural appreciation and communication in Spanish. Throughout the semester members hosted salsa dancing evenings at Burney Center, a dinner at Mix to Restaurant with a movie afterward and monthly conversation nights at El Cerro Grande.

2011 is shaping up to be as meaningful and enjoyable as 2010, ¡qué bueno!



2010 Spanish Club Taco Eating Contest (Fundraiser to purchase bilingual books)





Sigma Delta Pi Initiates 20 members in 2010

This spring, the Rho Lambda Chapter of Sigma Delta Pi is initiating one honorary member, Jess Boersma, and nine active student members, Rebecca Kathleen Curtis, Christina Ann Fourre, Brooke Hannah Gomulka, Olga Rojas Joachim, Eric Michael Johnson, Daniel Thomas Potter, Jeremy Micah Robinson, Carolina Marie Sferuzzo and Grace Anne Stanisic. At the fall semester induction, one honorary member,

Marianella Jara, and nine active student members were taken into the organization: Alice Moura Cruz, Deanna Leigh Deibel, Hannah Victoria Delany, Kadie Carson Edwards, Hannah Seddon Lee, Robert Charles Ronner, Caitlin Marie Walsh, Hayley Christine Weaver and Elizabeth Ashley Wood. Welcome and congratulations, all!



Spring members of Sigma Delta Pi 2010



Fall members of Sigma Delta Pi 2010

CHILE STUDY ABROAD 2010

Now in its ninth consecutive year, the Chile summer study abroad program offers intermediate level Spanish students an opportunity to study Spanish conversation, composition and reading while exploring one of the world's most beautiful countries. It was created by program director and resident instructor Valerie Rider.

While the courses are lively and interesting –and grant six UNCW credits– the twin highlights of Chile study abroad are the warm

relationships students develop with their Chilean host families and the extraordinary excursions program participants enjoy. These excursions include an alpaca ranch, champion equestrian center, a day spent learning about Chilean wine production and an all-day hike through La Campana, one of Chile's breathtaking national parks.

Student veterans of the Chile program return astounded at how much Spanish and Hispanic culture they learned while they were in Chile. The majority continues in Spanish and can't wait to return to Chile.

CHILE



Alpaca Love from Lydia Shippen



Llama fun for Carrie Peeden and Chris Smith



Reid Squires and Julian Johns enjoying dinner with host family



right- Valerie Rider enjoying the Atacama desert scenery

SPAIN STUDY ABROAD 2010-11

Location: Santander, Spain

Through the N.C. Consortium for Study Abroad, UNCW students can study at the Universidad de Cantabria, Spain, during the fall or spring semesters. This program, which began in 1985, gives students the opportunity to spend a semester in the coastal city of Santander, taking up to 15 hours of 300- and 400-level credit in classes in Spanish geography, literature, art, history and language taught by Spanish professors.

Santander is a particularly attractive location for study abroad. One of the country's most fashionable resorts in summer, it is a beautiful city of 200,000 people set on a sparkling bay on Spain's northern coast, approximately 300 miles from Madrid and 150 miles from the French border. Santander is also within easy reach of some of the most beautiful mountain scenery in Spain, as well as the caves of Altamira, which have been called the "Sistine Chapel of prehistoric art," and the picturesque village of Santillana del Mar, now a national monument. Though the coastal climate is moderate even in winter, skiing is available as early as December at an inland ski resort 45 miles from Santander. Sunbathing and surfing on the beaches are possible as late as mid-October.

A major part of the Semester in Spain Program is the travel beyond Santander made available to students. Various excursions are carefully designed to complement the academic program. Students visit various points of interest in the region and take two weekend-long excursions. These usually include a

four-day tour to Madrid, Segovia and Toledo as well as a weekend trip to Salamanca.

Students are housed in carefully selected homestays located within easy access (either by foot or by city bus) to the universidad, downtown and the beaches. Airfare, tuition, housing, health insurance, daily meals, laundry service and all group trips are included in the price of the program. For more information about the Santander program, please see Brian Chandler, John Stevens or Terry Mount.

Santander, Spain Study Abroad Program 2010-11



UNCW student participants in picture: Sarah Baric, Elissa Ettinger, Morgan Lear and Ryan Spalding



UNCW students participants in picture: Candace Campbell, Danielle Campo, Sarah Christman, Barrie Cohen, Jacquelyn Cook, Sherri Dill, Clare Engler, Abi Hicks, Jonathan Huss, Matthew McBride, Lexie Schaus and Meredith Staley.

Location: Ubeda, Spain

Last summer Ashlee Balena led the summer study abroad program to Ubeda, Spain. This program has boasted several years of successful trips to this quaint town in the south of Spain, but with growing economic concerns back home and a weakening U.S. dollar against the euro, recruiting a sufficient number of participants has been quite a challenge. Last year, the numbers were lower than in the past, but the smaller class size made for more individualized instruction, the ideal learning environment for second language acquisition. Needless to say, traveling as a group on trains, planes, buses and especially the metro in Madrid was much less problematic with fewer students.



UNCW student participants in picture: Jeremy Smyczek, Sadena Corbin, Taylor Meiburg, Carissa Priebe, Katelyn Percy and Melia Swicegood.

Some of the highlights of the trip include several city tours in the region of Andalucia. The students explored the most visited monument in Europe, the last Muslim palace La Alhambra in Granada and later enjoyed a picnic lunch in the lush gardens of the Generalife.

The group also spent the day in Córdoba where they toured the Mosque of Córdoba and appreciated the myriad examples of breathtaking Moorish architecture. The host families warned that Córdoba is known as "la sartén de Andalucía" or the frying pan of

Andalucía, but the heat was nothing that a stop at the ice cream shop or a cold, large glass of *horchata* (a drink made of tigernuts) couldn't fix.

Some students took an independent trip to Málaga on the Mediterranean coast where they marveled at the black sand and toured the impressive Picasso Museum. On another weekend, Balena and the students took a beach trip to Cádiz, a city and port in southwestern Spain, which prides itself in its beautiful beaches, historic Old City and fresh seafood. The students enjoyed an intense soccer game at the modern Carranza soccer stadium there and ended the night with tapas (appetizers) and dancing.



Although there was much to see and do in other cities, the students also took pleasure in spending quality time with their host families in Úbeda and participating in excursions around town. You haven't really been in Spain unless you have had a healthy serving of homemade paella with a bowl of gazpacho. Everyone's host mothers seemed to have a special innate talent for preparing these two Spanish dishes. While in Úbeda, the students learned to dance flamenco and click castanets at a local school of dance. They also tried their hands at creating ceramic bowls on a potter's wheel, an experience reminiscent of a famous scene from *Ghost*. The students thoroughly enjoyed their lesson at



the workshop/museum of Spain's nationally renowned alfarero (potter) Paco Tito. The group participated in a walking tour of historic downtown Úbeda and watched the romantic comedy *Que se mueran los feos* at the local cinema for movie night as part of their required assignments for SPN 206: Spanish in the Media. In addition to classes, Balena and the students filled their days and nights with meaningful cultural activities to make the most out of their time in Spain.

The last stop of their Spanish adventure was the capital of Spain, Madrid (or the city that never sleeps). Balena and her students first explored the city atop a red double-decker tour bus. During the day they visited

the Prado Museum as well as the Royal Palace, among other sites. One night they attended an energizing musical at La Gran Vía, Madrid's Broadway, which featured pop music's top 40s over the last couple of decades with hits from Alejandro Sanz and Bacilos to Cristina Aguilera and Britney Spears. The group could not resist dancing and singing. Another night the students viewed a live flamenco show in an intimate setting off the beaten path.

The group departed Spain on June 11 with a profound appreciation for the Spanish culture and its people. It was truly an unforgettable adventure for everyone.



Graduate Program

Graduate Studies in Spanish

At the May 2010 commencement the following students received the Master of Arts degree in Spanish: Elana Núñez-Tiso and Jeremy Robinson. At the December ceremony, the degree was conferred upon Jacquie Benítez-Galbraith, Rachel Hatfield and Olga Joachim. Completing the post-baccalaureate certificate in Hispanic studies in December was Kevin Sledge, who is continuing for the M.A. degree. New to our graduate program in 2010 was Carlos Neyra to whom we extend a warm welcome. For information on graduate programs in Spanish, contact coordinator Terry Mount at mounttt@uncw.edu or go to www.uncw.edu/fll/studies-graduate.html.

Cape Fear Foreign Language Collaborative

Fall 2010 marked the beginning of the 23rd year of the Cape Fear Foreign Language Collaborative (CFFLC). Membership includes K-12 teachers of foreign languages and English as a second language, community college teachers, university faculty, graduate students and teacher licensure students from UNCW. The collaborative organizes professional development programs, provides scholarships to deserving students and sponsors a table at the UNCW Intercultural Festival each February.

Students receiving scholarships in 2010 were Frank Machado of UNCW, Grace Stanisic of UNCW and Samantha Romero of Topsail High School. Professional development programs and workshops related to assessment and evaluation, global awareness and outreach, film studies and technology. A special world languages symposium on "The Changing Landscape of Language Teaching" was sponsored by Cengage Learning, FLL, and CFFLC. If you would like more information about meetings and/or would like to be on an email list, please contact Joann McFerran Mount at mountj@uncw.edu.

Student Spotlight

Pete Miles

As a business student, developing a base of knowledge in any foreign language offers returns far beyond the language itself. I have come to realize that employers are often more interested in the dedication it takes to learn the language than the language acquisition itself.

For me, Spanish is appealing because of the growing population of Spanish speakers in the U.S. and also because of our trade relationships with Spanish-speaking countries.

When I learned of UNCW's study abroad program in Chile, I jumped at the opportunity. Not only were the courses important for my Spanish minor, they also fulfilled my requirements to complete an international study experience.

Living with a Chilean host family was an incredible experience. The education offered through the program far exceeded the subject matter in the courses. The communication skills developed during this type of immersion simply cannot be achieved completely in the classroom.

While I may not use my Spanish extensively in a career with a Dutch company, there is no doubt I will draw on my experiences in Chile during international assignments.



Pete Miles

UNCW Graduates Serve as Language and Culture Assistants in Spanish Schools

Two Spanish graduates served as language and culture assistants in schools in Spain for the academic year 2010-11. They are Lacey Greene, who continued for a second year in Las Lagunas (Andalucía) and Erika Hollingsworth, who began her work in Galdakoa (País Vasco) in September 2010.

For academic year 2010-11, the following UNCW students were chosen: Brittany Croce '11M, Madrid; Deanna Deibel '11, País Vasco; Kadie Edwards '11, Cantabria; and Erika Hollingsworth '10, Andalucía.

Shortly after her arrival in Galdakoa, Hollingsworth wrote: "¡Es increíble aquí! La gente es simpática. He conocido a un argentino que vive en Bilbao y un bilbaíno ... y muchos estudiantes del programa también. ¡Me han ayudado mucho!"

Congratulations to all. We wish you continued success.

The call for applications for this program is generally published in November or December for the academic year beginning the following fall. More information can be obtained by contacting Terry Mount at mountt@uncw.edu or visiting the Ministry of Education at the Embassy of Spain website at: www.educacion.es/exterior/usa/en/programs/us_assistants/default.shtml. Look for North American Language and Culture Assistants.

FLL Department Student Workers

Trevor Huggins (below- left)has been with the FLL department since fall 2010. Huggins is from Fayetteville and is a sophomore majoring in accounting. He enjoys intramural sports and going to the beach.

Micah Rich (below-right) began working for us the beginning of the spring 2011 semester. He is from Kijabe, Kenya, and is a sophomore majoring in parks and recreation, sports leadership. Rich is involved in UNCW intramural sports and is a member of UNCW Club Volleyball.



These boys can scan like it's going out of style, staple as if their life depends on it and are ready and willing to assist the faculty and staff with their projects.

Good job, guys!

Alumni and Graduates

Christopher Joel Bullard '03, Spanish and his wife, Loreto Tessini, live in Fuqua-Varina. Bullard teaches in the Wake County Schools. On March 31, 2011, he returned home after completing Advanced Individual Training for the U.S. Army in Fort Lee, Va. The next day, Isabella Sophia Bullard was born. She weighed 7 lbs. 8 oz. and measured 20 inches long. Congratulations and best wishes to the Bullard family.

CONGRATULATIONS 2010-11 FLL Graduates!



FLL Faculty (L to R): Olga Trokhimenko, Joann Mount, Amanda Boomershine and Terry Mount

December 2010 Graduates

Matthew Charles Beuris	Charles Allan Joyce
David Thomas Blitvich	Hannah Seddon Lee
Vala C. Burton	Stacy Shen-Teng Lee
Hannah Victoria Delany	Virginia Anne Murray
Maria Guadalupe Duran	Melina Ordaz
Caitlin Jayne Emerson	Stacy Tatum Pritchett
E. Jacqueline Benitez-Galbraith	Nora Cori Elizabeth Ritter
Alexa Marie Gilbert	Kevin Maurice Sledge
Cameron Caton Gore	Lauren Ashley Smith
Rachel Michelle Hatfield	Ashley Diana Tan
Olga Rojas Joachim	Howard Lee Campbell Thirtle

May 2011 Graduates

Brianne Nicole Brown	Stacie Marie Mallas
Allyson Cheryl Goins	Laura Margaret Mayo
Jennifer Lynn Herbig	Hannah Katherine Michalove
Agatha Gabrielle Lapinski	Sarah Alexandra Murphy
Kristin Ellyse LeGrow	Jameylah A. K. Rogers
Christina Dawn Williams	Robert Charles Ronner
Catherine Elaine Saulnier	Raquel Sanchez
Nichole Kathryn Bennight	Gina Michelle Simmons
Rex Wayne Bowman	Grace Ann Stanisic
Caroline Olds Conn	Rachel Megan Strother
Emily Anne Cosgrove	Howard Lee Campbell Thirtle
Rebecca Kathleen Curtis	Michael Joseph Traum
Deanna Leigh Deibel	Caitlin Marie Walsh
Jaha Naeem Gitonga	Hayley Christine Weaver
Amanda Danielle Gregg	Chantal Marie Woodard

The Campaign for UNCW®
—Soaring to Greatness—



GIVE TODAY!

www.uncw.edu/campaign

Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures Full-Time Faculty Members:



Ashlee Balena teaches beginning and intermediate Spanish classes. Last summer she coordinated a study abroad program to Úbeda, a small Renaissance town in the south of Spain. She and

her students learned to dance flamenco and took a pottery class from the internationally renowned potter, Paco Tico. They explored the Alhambra while visiting Granada, enjoyed a lively musical at the Gran Vía in Madrid and participated in many more exciting activities while abroad. Balena offered two courses at the local university in Úbeda, SAFA. In addition to her study abroad interests, Balena is an active member in the Cape Fear Foreign Language Collaboration where she regularly makes presentations and collaborates with other foreign language instructors of the region.



Pascale Barthe specializes in Renaissance France. Her current book project examines political, scientific, religious and literary intersections between the kingdom

of France and the Ottoman Empire in the 16th century. Her article on Gabriel Bounin's "La Soltane," a tragedy depicting the murder of Sultan uléyman's son, is forthcoming in *Studies in Early Modern France*. Barthe has published articles in *French Historical Studies*, *L'espritcréateur* and the MLA's *Approaches to Teaching World Literature* series. At UNCW, she teaches a variety of courses on French language, literature and culture.



Jacqueline Benitez-Galbraith is a full-time lecturer with primary responsibility teaching lower division Spanish language courses. She serves on the advisory board for UNCW Centro Hispano

and is involved in several outreach programs to the local Hispanic community. Galbraith was born and raised in Mexico. Her research

focus is on how language diversity affects immigrant entrepreneurial behavior, and she has published several articles examining how the local immigrant economies evolve over time. She is also interested in how leadership characteristics are presented in colonial Mexican and Spanish American literature.



Jess Boersma teaches courses in Spanish literature, culture and language. His research focuses on representations of violence in contemporary Spain. Heco-edited

a special issue of *Discourse* titled "Membranous Topographies" and with Anthony Cascardi and Scott Weintraub he is editing "The Literary (as) Sovereign: Philosophy and its Others in Spain and Latin America" for an upcoming issue of *Arena Romanistica*. Boersma's experience abroad includes work as a humanitarian relief worker throughout Central and South America, an international observer in Venezuela and student and researcher at Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Universidad de Salamanca.



Amanda Boomershine teaches courses in Spanish language and Hispanic linguistics and seminars on service-learning, immigration, language variation, pedagogy and other topics. In addition,

she coordinates the lower-level Spanish language courses. Her research areas include socio-phonetics, language variation and speech perception, and she has published a monograph, book chapter and articles in these areas. She has presented her research locally, nationally and internationally. Boomershine serves as the coordinator of the department's internship program and was a member of the University Studies Advisory Committee. She also serves as vice president of the local chapter of the United Nations Association and is the newsletter editor for the local chapter of the American Association of University Women.



Department chair **Raymond Burt** teaches one German class each semester. This year, he taught a Cornerstone Learning Community called "The Soundtrack of History" which is paired with

a music course and a "uni" course. He also taught a course through the Graduate Liberal Studies program. He is the coordinator of the UNC German Studies Consortium which offers distance learning classes in German. In his field of research, Burt presented a paper on the novels of the contemporary Austrian author Marlene Streeruwitz at the INST World Conference in Vienna, Austria, in November. He continues to serve on the Executive Committee of the UNC Faculty Assembly representing faculty interests.



This year, **María Cami-Vela** was the SPN section coordinator, a challenge she shared with her teaching and research. She presented papers at three international

conferences (Spain, Italy and Germany) where she talked about French directors Jeanne Roques and Marceline Loidan-Ivens, and about Spanish female directors' latest works. She has also been invited to give a presentation about female Catalan directors at the Cervantes Institute in New York. She continues her research on female directors, and she wrote two film entries for the World Cinema Directory. She participated with the Women's Studies and Resource Center in the presentation of the film *She is Matador* and also presented "From Disgust to Humanity: Marceline Loidan-Ivens' Traumatic Memories of the Holocaust" at UNCW's Tealin' Like a Student Open House. Dr. Cami-Vela also is co-chairing a Ph.D. dissertation at the University of Vic in Spain.

Faculty



Brian Chandler teaches courses on Spanish language and Latin American literature and civilization. He is in Spain serving as the resident director for the North Carolina Consortium for Study Abroad in Santander. This year, he published an article in the journal *Chasqui: Revista de Literatura Latinoamericana* titled "Signs from the Present: Víctor Hugo Rascón Banda's 'La Malinche.'" He is working on his book project about history, theater and fiction in contemporary Mexican literature.



Amrita Das specializes in U.S. Latino literature and culture of the Caribbean region. She is researching the new trend U.S. Latino authors writing about Latin American social reality. Das is working towards the establishment of an interdisciplinary minor in U.S. Latino studies. The first course in U.S. Latino Literature and Culture was offered in fall 2009, as part of the Spanish curriculum. She also coordinates the community outreach group, the Latino Book Club, which reads books written by U.S. Latino authors. The Latino Book Club organized its first book drive to collect books in Spanish and English for three local schools. Das also started the Spanish theater group Puro Teatro. She directed the group's first performance – the Mexican playwright Emilio Carballido's *El censo* in fall 2009.



Andrea Deagon presented "Devotees of Hathor," a paper on Egyptian dance, in Toronto in April, and "The 'Effeminate Dancer' in Greco-Roman Egypt: The Intimate Performance of Ambiguity" at the annual meeting of the Congress on Research in Dance (CORD) in November. Her article "Almée or Salomé? Western Performers of Eastern Dance, 1890-1930" appeared in the proceedings of the 2007 CORD conference and a book review appeared in *Dance Chronicle*.



Christopher Dennis teaches courses in Spanish language and Latin American literatures and cultures. His research focuses on Colombia and more specifically topics related to Afro-Colombian cultures. He is working on a book manuscript titled, *Afro-Colombian Hip-Hop: Globalization, Transcultural Music, and Ethnic Identities*, which explores how young Afro-Colombian artists are using hip-hop as a means to bring their marginalized histories and cultures into public consciousness. Additionally, he is working on an article titled, "The Current and Future State of Afro-Colombian Prose Fiction," analyzing various factors behind the country's lack of black fiction writers over the last few decades. Lastly, Dennis is also working with colleague Jess Boersma on an edited volume addressing violence in Hispanic America and Spain, tentatively titled *Restructuring Violence in the Spanish-Speaking World*.



Regina R. Félix continues with her exciting schedule teaching Portuguese and Brazilian studies. She presented at the International Congress of the Brazilian Studies Association in Brasília "Tone, Volume and Arrangement in the Chiaroscuro of Memory," a paper on the book *Symphony in White* by Adriana Lisboa. She is delighted that this article is scheduled to appear in a prestigious journal, *Estudos de Literatura Brasileira Contemporânea*, in June. She also had her article "Amarelo Manga Uncouth and Beautiful," published in November as part of the edited volume *Interseções – Cinema e Literatura*, organized by Gabriela Lírio and Angélica Coutinho.



David Graber, a specialist in Central and Eastern European languages and literatures, came to UNCW in fall 2010. His doctoral work drew from Russian, German and Polish literature, and he has studied and/or taught in Russia, Germany, Austria, the Czech Republic, Slovakia and Poland. He worked as a foreign correspondent in Berlin, Germany, for six years. His primary focus at UNCW is building the Russian program, but he also teaches Central and Eastern European literature in English translation. Graber contributed a chapter on the benefits of taking on a "new identity" in summer language immersion programs for a book commemorating the 50th anniversary of Concordia Language Villages of Minnesota.



For the third time, **Lizzy Irvin** led a summer study abroad program to Ecuador. She also made two trips to Mexico for students and community members. In the fall she co-presented with Jacqueline Benitez-Galbraith the paper "Gender Images in Mexican Film: An Examination of Pre- and Post-NAFTA Periods" at Mountain Interstate Foreign Language Conference. She has continued to work with the area Latino population, interpreting for dental and vision clinics and sending students into the community to engage in service-learning. This year, her students contributed more than 800 hours of service to the local Spanish-speaking community. Irvin has also continued to offer La Mesa Española, a weekly Spanish table for students and community members who want to practice their language skills outside the classroom. She is faculty advisor for a new student organization, People to People, whose aim is to provide tutoring and other services to area ESL students.

Faculty



Marianella Jara teaches beginning and intermediate Spanish courses. In 2010, Jara was awarded a Discere Aude Award for excellence in teaching. She loves taking students abroad during the spring and summer breaks. She has served as the director of two summer abroad programs to Spain and an honors seminar/field experience focusing on the Arabic-Islamic influence in Spain. In addition, Jara continues as the advisor to the Spanish Club and helps organize different projects to help the Hispanic community in Wilmington, as well as activities that foster appreciation for the Spanish language and Hispanic culture. She also teaches Spanish for Educators class. Through this class students volunteer and help support the first fully bilingual program in New Hanover County at Forest Hills Elementary. In 2011, Jara started a new online teaching venture, an experience that has proven to be highly rewarding. In addition, she, along with Valerie Rider and Gina Kelley, produce the FLL Newsletter. Her plans for the 2011-12 academic year involve more study abroad programs to new locations and new international volunteering projects. Jara welcomed her first child, a daughter, 8 lbs. and 6 oz., on at 6:22 a.m. April 2, 2011. Welcome to the world, Paz Angélica Matthews!



Scott Juall's primary field of research is the relationship between ideology and imperialism in early modern French/European literature. He has published articles in French Literature Series, *Études Rabelaisiennes*, Renaissance and Reformation, and *L'Esprit Créateur*. He recently edited a volume titled *Encounters with Alterity in Early Modern French Travel Literature*. His current book project is on 16th century French travel narratives and (anti-) imperialism. He also is interested in spaces of artistic creation among French and Spanish Surrealists in 20th-century Paris. He teaches courses on

travel literature from the Middle Ages to the 18th century, travel writing in Paris, franco-phone literature, cinema, music and French linguistics.



Yoko Kano teaches Japanese language and culture courses, serves as the Director of Foreign Language Resource Center and is the coordinator of the Asian Studies minor. She uses technology extensively to enhance student learning of language and culture. Her class has been working on exchanges with Mie University, and now Osaka Kyoiku University will join her class exchanges to let students use Japanese beyond her classroom. She continues to be active in an outreach activity to educate secondary school teachers in North Carolina about East Asia, called North Carolina Teaching Asia Network. Kano collaborates with the UNC Chapel Hill and Columbia University to offer simulcast and online courses to North Carolina teachers. Though she stays busy with teaching and outreach activities, she also enjoys cooking, gardening, learning tea ceremony, calligraphy, making Temari balls (Japanese folk art), and, most importantly, playing with her 5-year-old son.



P. J. Lapaire's priority remains dedication to teaching and to students. On the research front, he is working on French pop culture and urban social issues and especially on France's colonial wars in Indochina and Algeria and their impact on French society to this day



Derrick Miller spent the summer visiting archives in North Carolina and Pennsylvania collecting information about the Moravians and other German-speaking immigrants to North America. Much of this material found its way into a

new course on German fantasies of and experiences in the Americas that is being offered during the spring semester, as well as into an article he is writing on 18th century German family structures.



Joann McFerran Mount teaches classes in Spanish language, Spanish American literature and civilization and methodology of foreign language teaching. In addition, she coordinates the Foreign Language Teacher Education Program and supervises teaching interns in the practicum semester. She is coordinator and contact person for the Cape Fear Foreign Language Collaborative, an alliance of foreign language teachers at all levels, from kindergarten through university level. Her research interests and publications are in the areas of Spanish American literature and teaching strategies and techniques. Her article "Neruda Reborn: His Life in Children's Literature" was published in April 2011 in *Bookbird: A Journal of International Children's Literature* (Johns Hopkins University Press).



Terry Mount teaches classes in Spanish language, literature and civilization and Spanish-English translation. He serves as coordinator of the UNCW graduate programs in Hispanic studies, which are the master's in Spanish and the post-baccalaureate certificate program in Hispanic studies. Mount's scholarly research focuses on Spanish medieval literature, particularly in hagiography and miracle literature, with special emphasis on the works of Gonzalo de Berceo and Alfonso X el Sabio. During 2010, he gave a presentation on five Iberian versions of the Great Miracle of the Road at the Kentucky Foreign Language Conference, University of Kentucky.

Faculty



Ariana Mrak, assistant professor of Spanish, received her doctorate in Spanish from the University of Houston in 2000. Her areas of concentration are heritage language education and sociolinguistics. She specializes in the Spanish of the United States and is the author of *¡Conozcámonos!*, a textbook designed for intermediate college-level heritage speakers of Spanish. She has had articles on theoretical and pedagogical issues related to Spanish heritage speakers published in *A Romance Perspective on Language Knowledge and Us* (2003), *Plurilingüisme I educació: els reptes del segle XXI* (2003), *Mi Lengua: Spanish as a Heritage Language in the United States* (2003) and the *Southwest Journal of Linguistics* (1998).



Gisela Reid teaches part-time beginner German language classes. Reid was raised in Bremen, Germany, destination spot of the German department and Cameron School of Business annual month-long summer studies program. The other part of “part-time” is filled with golf, painting, yoga, mah-jongg, travel and gardening.



Valerie Rider teaches beginning and intermediate level Spanish and is resident director of the summer study abroad program in Valparaiso, Chile. This year she took take groups to Costa Rica for spring break and is planning a trip to Chile for summer session II. As an honors professor, she teaches an honors enrichment course each semester, *Amigos y escolares*. This course features cross-cultural experiences for honors scholars as they tutor and mentor Hispanic elementary school children. In October, Rider participated in the Honors

Lyceum in Washington, D.C. Last semester, she was awarded UNCW's Discere Aude award for excellence in teaching. For the past three years, Rider has served as editor of the FLL Newsletter. She is grateful for the collaboration on the newsletter of co-editor (and fellow Discere Aude award recipient) Marianella Jara and administrative assistant Gina Kelley. All of these activities are extremely rewarding, but the one closest to Rider's heart is fostering in her students an appreciation of Spanish-speaking people and places through teaching her classes and directing study abroad.



Michelle Scatton-Tessier is an associate professor of French and director of the Women's Studies and Resource Center. In 2010, she invited 16 new members into to the French international honor society, Pi Delta Phi. In the spring, Scatton-Tessier offered her first cross-listed French and women's studies course, “Gender and Sexuality in French Cinema.” Her co-translation with Eric Tessier of Danielle Robert-Guédon's “Art, Suicide, Austerity and Light Irony” was published in *Inclinations: la collection selon Bernard Lamarche-Vadel*, Nantes, France. Her article “The Place(s) of Agnès Varda” was accepted for publication in *The Mountain Foreign Language Foreign Language Conference*. She is completing a book chapter on Jean-Pierre Jeunet's *Chanel no. 5* short-film advertisement “Train de Nuit.”



John Stevens is an associate professor of Spanish whose primary specialization is Hispanic linguistics. His research interests include Spanish dialectal variation and the acquisition of L2 Spanish phonology.



David Schultz is one of our newest faculty members. The Duo Schultz team (along with his wife, Joy) is feverishly working to meet the demands with our American Sign Language courses. Schultz has been deaf since birth and completed his Master of Education in leisure education at Boston University. He has an extensive background in providing recreational therapy programs for people of all abilities.



Joy Schultz teaches courses in introductory and advanced American Sign Language. With the growing demands of students wanting to take ASL, Schultz is excited to bring her students to the deaf community events to learn more about their culture and to practice/immerse themselves into ASL. In her third year teaching at UNCW, Schultz is thrilled to be part of the FLL Department, along with her husband, David, who is also an ASL instructor. During her free time, she enjoys spending time with her family and photography.



Eric Tessier teaches lower-division traditional and online French classes. His co-translation of Danielle Robert-Guédon's “Art, Suicide, Austerity and Light Irony” was published in *Inclinations: la collection selon Bernard Lamarche-Vadel, Filigranes Éditions, Nantes, France*. He is currently working on a translation for French author Danielle Robert-Guédon titled “Pierrot le fou” for a book with CD of photography by Jérôme Sevrette.

Faculty



Peter Thomas attended the Latin American Studies Association meeting in Quito, Ecuador, in July 2008, where he presented a research paper on the novel

El palaciodel Diabloy Modesto Ponce as part of his ongoing research on the image of the city of Quito in Ecuadorian narrative. At the Casa de Cultura Ecuatoriana in Quito, he participated in the launching of the bilingual edition of *Grañas* by the Ecuadorian poet Simon Zavala, which he translated into English. Since 2009, Thomas has been contributing a tri-weekly column commenting on Latin American fiction to the Sunday cultural supplement “Siete Dias” published by the Ecuadorian newspaper *EI*.



Olga Trokhimenko teaches all levels of German language, literature and culture, but specializes in medieval culture and mythology, gender studies and literary

folklore. This past year, she taught courses on the origins of the modern concept of love in the Western society; Germany’s coming to terms with its Nazi past, centered around the famous bestseller by Bernhard Schlink *The Reader (Der Vorleser)* which is now also a popular Hollywood movie; and the survey of German literature from its beginnings to the late 20th century. She also attended a two-week Fulbright seminar in Baden-Württemberg, the picturesque area of Southeastern Germany, and saw first-hand all of the UNCW’s partner-universities in the UNC-EP Study Abroad program. Trokhimenko stayed active in her research, presenting at several international conferences, organizing panels for the German Studies Association, publishing an article on women’s laughter in medieval didactic texts and several book reviews, and completing an article on a touching medieval tale of two lovers, *Tristan and Isolde* (April 2011). She serves as a coordinator of the German section, closely working with her colleagues, advising the students and

promoting the German major and minor. She has remained active as the German Club Faculty Advisor and is pleased to see the club grow and become an important part of the German studies program.



Maike Walbrecht works for both FLL and the Office of International Programs. For FLL, she teaches the English as a Second Language

course for international exchange and degree students, focusing on academic writing, idioms, pronunciation and presentation skills, U.S. geography and travel, and popular culture. Since her native language is German, she also led two summer programs to Bremen in 2007 and 2008. At OIP, she is the coordinator of UNCW’s Intensive English Immersion Program, which began in 1993. Walbrecht’s special interests are teaching American English pronunciation and exploring cultural contrasts with her students. In her spare time, she enjoys volunteering at pet adoption events and often brings ESL students along for service learning. She is also an artist and has exhibited her work at UNCW and around town.



Mary Watts teaches courses in Spanish language and linguistics and foreign language teacher education. She serves as a

liaison between the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures and the Watson School of Education at UNCW and is a university supervisor for student teaching interns working toward their N.C. teaching licensure in Spanish and French. As a university supervisor, she works with area K-12 public school teachers of Spanish and French. Watts conducts research in the field of second language acquisition, focusing on issues related to second language vocabulary learning, lexical processing and reading.

