



2015

Newsletter 2014-2015

Hispanic Studies, Illinois Wesleyan University

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Department of Hispanic Studies



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Estudiantes del año: Nathan Douglas y Hanna Eby

We conclude this 2014-15 school year proud of our students' and faculty's many accomplishments. Special mention goes to **Nathan** and **Hannah**, our Students of the Year, and **Carolyn Nadeau**, recipient of two *National Endowment for the Humanities* grants.



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Faculty Accomplishments

Byron S. Tucci Professor Carolyn Nadeau was granted two NEH Fellowships to translate and critically analyze Francisco Martino Montiño's 1611 book *Arte de cocina, pastelería, vizcochería y conservería* (*The Art of Cooking, Pastry Making and Preserving*), "the most recognized Spanish cookbook before the 20th century."

The Renaissance Society of America also awarded her a grant for work on this book.

She received a Mellon Humanities Fellow Grant for her work "From Bad Breath to the Plague: the Kitchen as a Space for Controlling Disease in early Modern Spain and England," which she delivered at the Medieval, Renaissance and Baroque Conference at the University of Miami. It compares women's domestic manuals written in Spain and England in the early modern era. Among other things, it provides a better understanding of women's role as health providers within the early modern household, the common bonds that defined women's domestic roles across Europe and the nuances within the manuals that set them apart.

Prof. Nadeau delivered the talk "Transcultural Food: What Cervantes' Writing Reveals about New World-Old World Exchanges" at Indiana University.

She received a Speaker and Performance Series grant for a campus lecture and class visit by Jennifer McCoy, Director of the Americas Program, the Carter Center. Dr. McCoy, Distinguished University Professor of Political Science at Georgia State University, delivered a talk titled "Conflict, Democracy and Revolution in post-Chavez Venezuela," which focused on Venezuelan political culture and the neo-Bolivarian perspective that is spreading throughout the hemisphere.

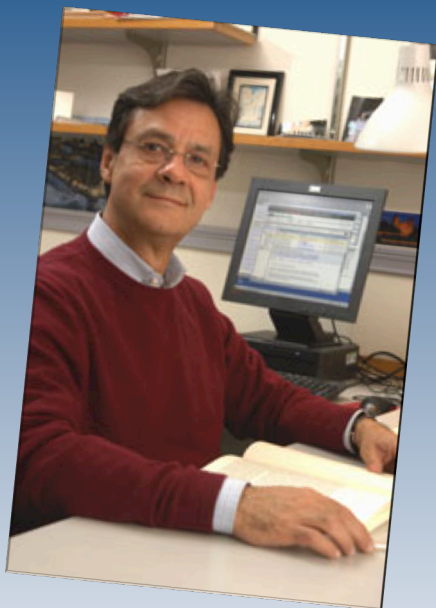


Professor Nadeau's Senior Seminar

Prof. Nadeau received a Speaker and Performance Series grant titled "HEALE Speakers and Faculty and Staff Workshops," with Amanda Hopkins. The workshops presented a series of LGBT cultural competency sessions across campus, including a visit to the Span 280 class, "Reading and Writing culture." Their lecture-workshop included a Skype call to the mother of one of the presenters who lived in Puerto Rico. She shared with the class her perspective on her son's coming out.

She made a film appearance in *CHCC. Two Decades. One Mission. 1994-2014. 20 Years*. Dr. Nadeau was interviewed about how the "Span 230: Medical Spanish and Cultural Competency for Health Care" class works in and learns from the Community Health Care Clinic as an integral part of the classroom experience.

This spring **professor Nadeau's** senior seminar is focused on the individual and society in early modern Spanish literature. As part of the experience students have been invited to attend the *15th Annual Cervantes Symposium*, in Chicago, on April 10, 2015. Dr. Nadeau is the co-organizer of this conference.



We are pleased to announce that **Professor Mauricio Parra** will be the Spring 2016 director for the IWU Spain program in Barcelona. ¡Felicidades Mauricio!

Professor Christina Isabelli was instrumental in developing a summer program that will offer a quality Spanish language program for children ages 4 to 12; it is the first initiative of the new **IWU Language School for Kids**. The **Summer Immersion Saturday School** will include activities that teach languages through games, songs, stories and crafts. In 2016, an after-school Language Program will also be offered. **Rocio Morales** (seen below in Guatemala), will be delivering this summer's classes.



Professor Carmela Ferradans received an innovation grant with **Eileen Galvez**, through the Donocker Foundation, to develop the first IWU Emerging Leaders Summer Institute targeting admitted IWU students.

She received an ASD Grant to Interview the poet Ana Rossetti during spring 2015, and a Re-Centering the Humanities grant for spring 2015 to develop a teaching module on Bullfighting. She is spring 2015 Director of the IWU Spain Program and is teaching "Barcelona and the Spanish Civil War."

Professor Christina Isabelli coauthored a chapter "[Foreign Language] Program Articulation and Management" in *The Routledge Handbook of Hispanic Applied Linguistics* with G. Lord, and received the inaugural IES (International Education of Students) Abroad teaching grant for Summer 2015. She will join IES Abroad Madrid's faculty and teach "Travel through Time: The Spanish Language."



Prof. Isabelli received a Mellon grant with Chris Callahan to teach Introduction to Romance Linguistics; she received an ASD grant for an article titled "SLA in the intensive, domestic and immersion context"; and she was awarded a Re-Centering the Humanities student researcher grant (with **Jordan Hosier**) (on behalf of LRC), as well as a Donnocker Innovation Fund to underwrite the new after school language education programs.

Associate professor Cesar Valverde was on sabbatical during Fall 2014, doing research at the Universidad de Costa Rica, where he also taught a Masters course on Mario Vargas Llosa.

While on sabbatical, his wife, **Carolina Rodriguez** (center, at right) had a show of her latest artwork. **Carolina** will be exhibiting her work here at IWU this coming May.



Professor Valverde published two articles: "Masculinidad, raza y clase en *Boquitas pintadas* de Manuel Puig," in *Revista de Lenguas Modernas* and "*Capote, Cortázar, Fuentes y Wolff: casas tomadas, tinieblas góticas y temores burgueses*," which appeared in *Revista Matérika*.

He presented a paper titled "Race, Nation and Sexuality: Discourses of Marginality in *The Dream of the Celt*" at the IV Modern Languages Conference, Universidad de Costa Rica. And he received a Mellon Foundation grant to expand on the conference presentation and write an article titled "Humanism in Vargas Llosa's *El sueño del Celta*: Race, Colonialism and Sexuality."

Student Accomplishments

Nathan Douglas '15 won a study abroad grant from the National Collegiate Hispanic Honor Society (Sigma Delta Pi) to Alcala de Henares, Spain at the Insituto Franklin-University of Alcala de Henares for 4 weeks in July 2015. He was also awarded a Mellon Humanities Scholarship to work on "And no one was waiting for me: Place and space in post-war and post-Franco Catalunya"; his sponsor for this scholarship was **professor Ferradans**.

Hannah Eby '15 won a grant from the Spanish Ministry of Education titled "Cultural Ambassadors: North American Language and Culture Assistant in Spain." She will work as a language assistant in a Spanish public school. Hannah was also the 2014 Student Laureate by The Lincoln Academy of Illinois for her "outstanding academic commitment and extra-curricular activities."

Nettie Rauch '15 (right) has been named a IWU Action Research Center Weir Fellow for her work on nonprofit organizations across 10 focus areas. The award offers support to students who

successfully use action research strategies to implement a project that makes a meaningful impact in the community.

Casey Plach '15, a political science major with a Spanish minor was among twelve IWU students that received study abroad scholarships. "I would not have been able to study abroad without this scholarship," she said.

Jordan Hosier '15 has been accepted to the Linguistics Ph.D. program at Northwestern University. She is very excited about the development and cannot thank the Hispanic Studies department enough for all its help and support along the way.



2014-15 Events

A Date with the Museum: **A Celebration of Mexican Popular Art** at the **McLean County Museum of History** featured over 150 pieces of art made by the people of Mexico, including ceramics, textiles, papier maché, lacquerware, basketry, carved wood, leather, glass, and more from every region of the country.



Film screening: *Cesar Chavez* (2014, USA-Mexico, Diego Luna), a film about the life of American labor leader Cesar Chavez, who co-founded the United Farm Workers. The film stars Michael Peña as Chavez. John Malkovich co-stars as the owner of a large industrial grape farm who leads the opposition to Chávez's organizing efforts.

Dual Language Education Summit was a town meeting on dual immersion in our local schools. The event promoted a community wide conversation about the potential benefits of dual language education for Bloomington/Normal. The benefits of this conversation are many and may include expanding educational, civic, and business opportunities.

Lecture: "Conflict, Democracy and Revolution in post-Chavez Venezuela" by invited guest, **Dr. Jennifer McCoy**, Distinguished University Professor of Political Science at Georgia State University and Director of the Americas Program at The Carter Center.

Antonio Gutierrez gave a public lecture titled "Undocumented, Unafraid, & Unapologetic: Fighting for Immigrant Rights with Dignity. Mr. Guterrez is an organizer with the Immigrant Youth Justice League and the Mexico Solidarity network.

Film screening: *Love in the Time of Cholera* (2007, USA, Mike Newell). Based on the novel of the same name by Gabriel García Márquez, it tells the story of a love triangle between Fermina Daza and her two suitors, Florentino Ariza and Doctor Juvenal Urbino which spans 50 years, from 1880 to 1930.

Dr. Arturo Marquez Gomez gave a public workshop titled "Against Bad Education: Pedro Lemebel, Student Movement and Sexual Rights in Contemporary Chile." Dr. Marquez Gomez was born and raised in Chile and worked as a psychologist at the Universidad de Chile. He is an assistant professor at Kalamazoo College; his visit was organized by assistant professor **Daynali Flores Rodriguez**.

IWU's **Language Resource Center** hosted the 2014 **Midwest Association for Language Learning and Technology Conference**, a conference for language teachers and others interested in how technology can assist language teaching and learning.

Prof. Carolyn Nadeau presented "The physical senses in early modern Galenism debates and prescriptive domestic literature" as part of the IWU Non-Org series.

The School of Theatre Arts presented *Women on the Verge of a Nervous Breakdown*. A musical adaptation of Pedro Almodovar's eponymous film; this is the brainchild of the talented team behind *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*. Mayhem and comic madness abound, balanced by the empathy and heart that are trademarks of Almodovar's work.

Nathan Douglas ('15) presented the work he carried out as a Mellon Humanities Scholar this past summer: "Y no me esperaba nadie": Historical memory in Carmen Laforet's *Nada*." Supported by grant funding through the *Re-centering the Humanities* grant and guided by an interdisciplinary approach to research, Douglas spent the summer in Barcelona exploring the interplay between fictional narrative, history, memory, and photography. Following a brief oral presentation, there was a "gallery walk" of photos taken during the summer.

Dr. Alai Reyes Santos, assistant professor at Oregon University, talked about competing ideas of transcolonial, colonial, national, and transnational kinship in contemporary Dominican-Haitian and Dominican-Puerto Rican relations; how racial ideologies and discourses about migrants shift depending on the kind of kinship narratives mobilized to build or limit Antillean solidarity. Her visit was organized by assistant professor **Daynali Flores Rodriguez**, pictured below.



Professor Isabelli,
on sabbatical spring 2015

The **Spanish and Latino Student Association** celebrated the culture of Costa Rica, Paraguay, Bolivia, and the Dominican Republic with dancing performances and lessons.

A showing of the film "**Speaking in Tongues**," about four children on a journey to become bilingual, as a follow-up to "Dual Language Education Summit" town meeting on dual immersion. **Professor Isabelli** (above) promoted both events.

The **Immigration Project** and our community partners presented the film "**Documented**," created by Pulitzer Prize winning journalist **Jose Antonio Vargas** about his experience being undocumented in the United States.

The **Keynote speaker** of the **John Wesley Powell Research Conference**, Dr. Kim Potowski, is associate professor of Spanish Linguistics at the University of Illinois at Chicago. Her public lecture was titled "How I Became a Language Activist." Dr. Potowski's research focuses on describing and promoting Spanish use in the United States and she has authored, co-authored, and edited many works.



From Our Alumni

Sylvia Rusin '13 (left) recently graduated from the University of Chicago's Master of Arts Program in the Social Sciences; she is currently keeping busy looking for jobs mostly around Washington, D.C. This summer she is volunteering with an NGO called the Education Global Access Program, doing field work in Latin America on the lack of education programs and schools for disabled youth. She just went to the Dominican Republic and will be going to Argentina in a few weeks.



Hispanic Studies major **Ethan Szpara '14** (pictured below) presented a paper titled "Is all 'Spanglish' the same? An analysis of code switching in Hispanic bilinguals of Colombian, Cuban and Mexican origin" at the XIV Simposio Internacional de Comunicación Social, held at the Center for Applied Linguistics in Santiago de Cuba.



Sarah Julian '09 (above) (English, Women's Studies and Hispanic Studies) is a communication analyst at the corporate level. She was invited to the **Alumni Speaker Series's Humanities Panel**. Five alumni returned to campus to talk about how they explored their options both during and after college at IWU, sought experience, and marketed their skills and experiences as humanities graduates to successfully find their way in the professional world.

Randy Krepel '08 is currently teaching high school Spanish in Mattoon, IL.

Katie Rothas '14 (below) is working toward her goal of becoming a bilingual dentist. She was in South America comparing healthcare systems in Argentina, Bolivia and Ecuador and taking customized Spanish classes in each country to fulfill her study abroad. For Rothas, taking a semester to study away from campus took much planning because she changed her major from biology to Hispanic Studies halfway through her college career; but, determined to complete all pre-dental courses in four years and not miss a spring season as a student-athlete on the women's track and field team, she was able to finish her undergraduate education. She will now be studying at the University of Michigan to become a dentist.



After graduating, **Dani Jauregui '13** returned to Spain and worked at an elementary school near Granada with a scholarship from the Spanish government. She wanted to try something different, so using her TEFL certificate she moved to Costa Rica and found work teaching English. She loves her job and is learning a lot about Costa Rican culture. While in Costa Rica, she met up with professor Valverde, who was there on sabbatical, and Emmy Grace.

Danny Kenny '13 (below) received a Rotary Foundation Global Grant Scholarship to pursue a Master's degree in Environmental Management and Development at Australian National University (ANU) in Canberra.

Kenny's grant is for \$50,000, the largest Rotary scholarship ever received by an IWU student. Kenny said he is "immensely fortunate and incredibly grateful to Rotary."

An Environmental Studies and Hispanic Studies double major, Kenny was the University's recipient of the 2012 Lincoln Academy of Illinois Student Laureate Award (just like **Kari Grace** and **Hannah Eby**), which recognizes outstanding academic achievement and extracurricular activities among college seniors.



Emmy Grace '11 is studying in Costa Rica as part of the American University's Masters program, which is offered through the University for Peace in Costa Rica. She is studying international relations, natural resource use and sustainable development. She has had the opportunity to travel to other Central American countries with her program.



Dani Jauregui and Emmy Grace in Costa Rica.

IWU Luis Leal Scholarship Fund

The Department of Hispanic Studies at Illinois Wesleyan University is able to offer competitive scholarships to qualified students who carry out Hispanic Studies research off-campus in the U.S. or abroad while enrolled in an IWU-affiliated program. Two awards are available annually for \$1000 and for \$250, respectively. Students awarded scholarships commit to documenting and sharing their research during and/or after the off- campus experience.

Luis Leal was one of the foremost critics of Mexican, Chicano and Latin American Literature. He was born in Mexico to a modest family, but decided to further his education in the United States. He was always grateful for the institutional support he received.

The 2014 winner was Thalia Novoa '16 (below left); the 2015 winner is Martha Aguirre (below right)





¡La vida es una búsqueda!

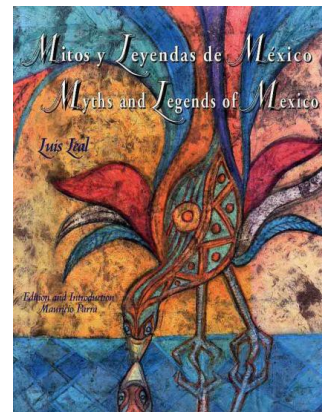


IWU Luis Leal Scholarship Fund

The Luis Leal Scholarship Fund supports IWU students' study abroad experiences in Spanish-speaking countries.

In appreciation for your donation, you will receive a copy of *Mitos y leyendas de México, Myths and Legends of Mexico* a bilingual collection of 20 popular legends recreated by the author, Luis Leal, and edited by Prof. Mauricio Parra. The book also includes original illustrations by acclaimed Mexican painter Álvaro Ángeles Suman. To receive a copy, please fill out this form. For more information visit: <http://www.iwu.edu/hispanic/>

Mitos y Leyendas de México *Myths and Legends of Mexico* by Luis Leal



Questions or comments? E-mail Mauricio Parra, mparra@iwu.edu

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