2014

Newsletter 2013-2014

Hispanic Studies, Illinois Wesleyan University

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Note from the Chair

Dear current and past students, we’ve had another amazing year and we hope this newsletter gives you an idea of our activities and achievements. We encourage you to contact us with any news that you would like to share in future newsletters. Please email us or visit us at www.iwu.edu/hispanic, don’t forget to list what year you graduated! A special thank you to my student assistant Melissa Ramirez (‘14) (right) for helping to put together this year’s newsletter.

Saludos,
Christina Isabelli
Professor Carmela Ferradáns (above-left) published *Incessant Beauty: A Bilingual Anthology* (2LeafPress, 2014). This publication is the first dual language Spanish/English collection of Ana Rossetti’s work, an award-winning Spanish poet.

Professor Mauricio Parra (above-center) participated in the round table “Seminari de treballs en curs Identi.Cat” discussing topics related to Catalan cultural identity. This took place in March at the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya, Barcelona. In May he took part in a debate at the IV Congrés Universitari Català on the future of the Catalan public university system focusing on a comparative analysis with the U.S. public system.

Associate Professor César Valverde (above-right), presented his paper “Gothic Doom and the Latin American Boom: Industrialization and its Discontent” at the First International Conference on Literature and Gothic Studies – Dark Latitudes: Mapping Gothic Sites and Mediums. The conference was held in December, 2013 at the University of Costa Rica.

We are pleased to announce that Prof. Ferradáns will be the Spring 2015 Director of the IWU Spain Program in Barcelona ¡Felicidades!

In July Prof. Parra will present “García Márquez y la maldita costumbre de narrar” at the Círculo Cultural Colombiano, Los Ángeles” and in a poetry recital organized by Beyond Baroque Cultural Center in Venice, California.

Mellon Student Research Assistant Thalia Novoa (‘16) researched with Professor Carmela Ferradáns
Tucci Endowed Professor Carolyn Nadeau, (above) presented “From Kitāb al-tabīj to the Sent Soví: Continuities and Shifts in the Earliest Iberian Cooking Manuals” at the 1st International Symposium of Mens et Mensa: Society for the Study of Food in the Middle Ages - Foods and Communities in the Later Middle Ages (1000-1500 CE). The symposium was held in October 2013 at the Institut d’Estudis Catalans in Barcelona, Spain.


Prof. Nadeau was awarded a Franklin Research Grant from the American Philosophical Society for her project, “A critical edition and translation of Martínez Montiño’s 1611 cookbook, Arte de cocina, pastelería, vizcochería y conservería [The art of cooking, pie making, pastry making and preserving]” (see book cover above).
Professor Christina Isabelli, presented “Heritage Learners in Spanish Second Language Courses” at the July 2013 Conference on Pedagogy for Spanish as a Second Language in Middlebury, VT. 


Assistant Professor Daynali Flores-Rodriguez (above-right) presented “Growing Up in Little Pieces: Trans-Caribbean Childhood Stories of Survival and the Politics of Age” at the American Comparative Literature Association Annual Meeting in New York City, March, 2014.


Prof. Isabelli was invited to present at the 32nd annual Second Language Research Forum, “Study abroad: Measuring the correlation between second language acquisition and social networks.” The conference was held at Brigham Young University in November, 2014.

Prof. Courtad also presented “Creating Spanish Culture in the Nineteenth Century: Life Imitating Art or Vice-versa?” in the panel, Looking beneath the Surface: Art and Artifice in 19th and 20th Century European Literature at the Midwest Modern Language Association Annual Convention in November, 2014.

More recently, Prof. Isabelli presented “Language Learning in the Study Abroad Context: Variables that Affect Development” to the Language in Context Research Group at the University of Illinois at Chicago in April, 2014.

Prof. Parra directed the Spring 2014 IWU Spain program in Barcelona, Spain.

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Re-centering the Humanities Mellon Grants Awarded:

Student Research Assistants

With Prof. Ferradáns - Thalia Novoa (‘16) worked on a digital library of bilingual poetry podcasts.

Speaker-and-Performance Series
Prof. Ferradáns hosted a campus visit by Prof. Sebastiaan Faber on the topic of the Spanish Civil War.

Mellon Humanities Fellow
Prof. Nadeau “The Physical Senses in Early Modern Galenism Debates and Prescriptive Domestic Literature.”
Eventos este año

Bilingualism for all

Kimberly Potowski, professor of Spanish at the University of Illinois at Chicago (right, with President Wilson), visited IWU in February, 2014. She gave a talk titled “Bilingualism for all.” Dr. Potowski researches issues related to Latinos in the U.S., one of which addresses the importance that heritage Latino speakers maintain their home language of Spanish.

Dr. Ernesto Carratalá

El extraordinario Ernesto Carratalá recibió una condena de muerte con 17 años por ser republicano. Estuvo en 3 prisiones, de una se escapó y por algún motivo, le acabaron conmutando la pena de muerte. Con casi 40 años volvió a estudiar en Barcelona, donde sería profesor también para el programa de California-Illinois. El Prof. Parra fue invitado al Acto de Homenaje al Dr. Carratalá, organizado por el Alumni UB de la Facultad de Filología de la Universitat de Barcelona en abril, 2014. El Prof. Parra fue alumno del Prof. Carratalá en 1975, el mismo año de la muerte de Francisco Franco y el final de la dictadura franquista e inicio de la llamada Transición Española.

Noches de película

Who doesn’t like a good movie? This year, the Hispanic Studies Department introduced various films in the IWU International Film Series. Such titles included: Pan’s Labyrinth (2006, Spain, Guillermo Del Toro) presented by Prof. Ferradáns; No eres tú, soy yo (2010, Mexico, Alejandro Springall) presented by Instructor Rocio Morales; Prof. Flores-Rodriguez presented the Oscar nominated film ¡No! (2013, Chile, Pablo Larraín); and Visiting Prof. Courtad presented the film The Way (2010, Spain, Emilio Estevez).

Trekking with Quijote

On September 26, Professor Kathleen Regan from the University of Portland visited various classes and held a viewing of her film Trekking with Quixote through the 21st Century. Various students and guests arrived at Beckman auditorium and participated in the discussion on the value of the humanities in education. According to Dr. Regan, “está bien ganar mucho dinero pero sin las humanidades perderemos el espíritu y sin éste ¿para qué sirve lo demás?”
Immigration Reform Walk

October 5th was Día nacional de dignidad y respeto de los inmigrantes. This year, several IWU students and professors participated in this event. This event involved more than 40 states in 150 locations with 50,000 people participating to support a migratory reform. Participants walked 30 miles between Decatur and Taylorville, IL to get attention from congressman Davis to support the Comprehensive Immigration Reform.

Little Visitors to IWU

IWU always welcomes guests, big or small, and this year 4th and 5th grade students from Bent Elementary School visited IWU for the first time. Hispanic Studies students along with SALSA and admissions counselor Nancy Vazquez, invited Latin@ students to participate in their first day of college. Students participated in a scavenger hunt based on the history and treasures of IWU, ate lunch at the Sodexo commons and received their first college diploma.

Hispanic Studies Graduation Luncheon

Rachel (Dziallo) Stalcup (‘01) addressed the graduating Hispanic Studies seniors in April, 2014 (at left with Provost Green and President Wilson). Currently a federal grant-writing consultant in Washington, D.C., Rachel highlighted that employers, when hiring, seek out those that have studied abroad as they find it a useful indicator of a candidate’s adaptability and willingness to learn new concepts. She also boasted: “Knowing Spanish also means I have the ‘soft skills’ to be successful working in the community – namely communication skills and cross-cultural understanding.”
On February 27, 2014 Sebastiaan Faber (right), professor of Spanish cultural history at Oberlin College and director of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade Archives, housed at the Tamiment Library in New York University, visited IWU. His visit was made possible by a Mellon Foundation Re-Centering the Humanities and Prof. Ferradáns. Dr. Faber’s research on the Spanish Civil War focuses on the internationalization of the conflict and the war’s legacy in modern-day Spain.

John Wesley Powell Research Conference
At this year’s JWP Conference our majors delivered oral and poster presentations. See select titles below:

Katie Rothas (‘14) “A Comparison between Formal Medical Spanish Terminology and the Terminology Used by Low-Income Hispanics”
Kelsey Quitschau (‘14) “What’s on Your Mind: Facebook and the Development of Hispanic/Latino Identity in the US”
Ethan Szpara (‘14) “Is All Spanglish the Same Spanglish?”

From left - Brynn Tomko (‘14), Nathan Douglas (‘15), Prof. Isabelli, Ethan Szpara (‘14), Katie Rothas (‘14), Jordan Hosier (‘15) at JWP 2014.
**Student Accomplishments**

**Hannah Eby** (‘15) is studying abroad this year in Cuzco, Perú with SIT. She sent us a message saying “estoy aprendiendo mucho sobre la historia y las cuestiones de hoy día de los indígenas de Perú.”

**Julie Lewis** (‘15) received the 2014 Weir Fellowship through IWU’s Action Research Center. The award offers fellowships valued up to $2,500 to students who successfully implement a project that makes a meaningful impact in the community.

**Emily Shankar** (‘15) and **Meghan Mormann** (‘15) spent their spring semester abroad on the IWU Spain program in Barcelona. They have been fortunate to be able to visit various cities such as Munich, Prague, Granada, Madrid, and Toledo.

Sigma Delta Pi, the National Collegiate Hispanic Honorary Society, presented an Undergraduate Study Abroad Award to **Nora Peterson** (‘14) (left) to study in the **Instituto Franklin de la Universidad de Alcalá de Henares** in Spain.

The Hispanic Studies Department is proud to announce the inaugural **Luis Leal Scholarship**. The first recipients to receive this scholarship are **Thalia Novoa** (‘16) and **Huyen Nguyen** (‘17). Thalia will be studying in Chile and Huyen in Barcelona.

**Jenna Tranel** (‘15) is another one of our Hispanic Studies student studying abroad in Valparaiso, Chile. She sent us a picture of Pablo Neruda’s house “La Sebastiana.”
Every year, the Multicultural Office holds the Summer Enrichment Program (SEP) for current IWU MALANA (Multiracial, African-American, Latino/a, Asian-American, and Native American) students. This program focuses on academic, professional and personal growth. Amanda Magallon (‘14) (2nd from right) successfully completed the program by interning at Bromenn Hospital during the summer of 2013. Hispanic Studies major, Thalia Novoa (‘16) will be participating in the 2014 cohort.

This past fall, 13 students were inducted into the honorary society Sigma Delta Pi.

Olivia Anderson (‘15)
Carissa Ball (‘15)
Jennifer Boll (‘14)
Nathan Douglas (‘15)
Hannah Eby (‘15)
Megahan Mormann (‘15)
Emily Powers (‘15)
Emily Shankar (‘15)
Katie Cannon (‘14)
Colleen Leonard (‘14)
Katie Rothas (‘14)
Zoie Samaan (‘14)
Amy Werner (‘14)

How Convenient IT is a student-run business providing IT, software and web development services at a low rate for non-profit organizations and local businesses. Join us in congratulating Vanessa Macias (‘14) (center) for co-founding this business after receiving the IWU Action Research Center Zoellick Fellowship in Social Entrepreneurship and $1500 to help implement their sustainable business idea. Good luck to you!
¿Dónde irán nuestros graduados?

Nora Peterson will be pursuing an MA in Women’s Studies through the GEMMA program. She’ll spend the first year in Granada, Spain and the second year in Budapest, Hungary.

Katie Robinette will be teaching Spanish to High School Students this fall. She hopes to be able to travel to Spanish-speaking countries during her off time in the summer.

Chloe Staub will be taking a TEFL course in Chiapas, Mexico. She will also remain there to teach English for the next academic year.

Stephanie Schwingle a Business Marketing and Hispanic Studies double major will be staying in Bloomington in search of job opportunities. opportunities following graduation. ¡Buena Suerte!

Christine Gawron will be in Milwaukee, WI working through AmeriCorps with College Possible. She will be a college counselor for high school students with low-income backgrounds. Her responsibilities include taking students on college visits, preparation for the ACT and help applying to college applications.

Aubrey Hayes will be pursuing higher education in the Master of Social Work program at Loyola University in Chicago beginning in August of 2014. She plans to continue with Spanish and work with Latino immigrants in the Chicago area. She also hopes to complete a part of her Field Placement in Southern Mexico during the summer of 2015.

Brynn Tomko an Educational Studies and Hispanic Studies double major is looking for job opportunities to teach abroad.

This year’s Hispanic Studies outstanding senior, Aubrey Hayes, with her parents.

Graduating seniors, Brynn Tomko (left) and Katie Rothas (right), on graduation day with Professors Nadeau and Ferradáns.
De nuestros alumnos

Timothy M. Brophy (‘84) is an alumnus who holds his IWU Hispanic Studies major close to his heart. In his junior year at IWU, he and Dean Hess created an International Management major, a combination in Tim’s interest in Business Management and Spanish. He claims the spot of the first International major of any sort here at IWU!

Rosie Egan (‘13) is currently a 3rd grade teacher. She loves working with her students and appreciates the opportunity to speak Spanish everyday. In January, she travelled to Argentina.

Kylene Wolfe (‘13) will begin a master in Spanish at ISU in the fall and continue teaching Spanish at Bloomington High School.

Erin Howes (‘12) works at the Esperanza Clinic in Chicago via HealthCorps.

Jim Fahey (‘12) attended his first year of medical school at Loyola University this year.

Chad Maxwell (‘02) received the IWU Robert M. Montgomery Outstanding Young Alumnus Award. He’s currently Starcom’s senior vice president of the Integrated Insights, Human Experience Intelligence Group.

Scott Meyers (‘13) is teaching in Eureka, IL. In recent weeks, he has been working as a substitute teacher, but has enjoyed the opportunity to meet the many full time teachers as well as students.

Jill Olliges (‘13) is working as a nurse and using her Spanish daily at St. Mary’s hospital in Chicago.

Sylvia Rusin (‘13) will graduate with an MA (U of Chicago) in August, 2014. For her thesis, she is studying young, undocumented children living in the area analyzing their academic goals and plans for the future. She thanks the Hispanic Studies department for preparing her for this research experience.

Anna Bromaghim (‘07) has spent the year teaching in Galicia, Spain through the Spanish Ministry of Education program.

Sarah Albarran (‘08) graduated in May from Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine with a Masters of Medical Science (MMS) and recently became a Board-Certified Physician Assistant (PA-C). She accepted an Emergency Medicine position at MetroSouth Medical Center in Blue Island, which is heavily populated with Spanish-speakers. She is looking forward to putting her Spanish to good use as a healthcare provider! She will be starting in this position after her wedding this September!

Featured alumnus – Colin Schofield (‘12)

Colin studied abroad in the Fall of 2010 in Santiago, Chile. He studied with SIT within a program called Comparative Education and Social Change. Through this experience, Colin became more aware of the complexities of education, causing him to look more closely at education in the US. He wondered what steps must be taken to make the educational community more cohesive. This experience lead him to his graduate studies at the University of Chicago. Working closely with Prof. Isabelli, Colin presented a refined version of his study at the XIII Simposio Internacional: Comunicación Social at the Centro de Lingüística Aplicada in Santiago de Cuba, Cuba, with funding from the Department of Hispanic Studies Tucci Endowed Funds. This experience afforded him a new view of how to approach educational reform how much importance a country to devote to an individual. Moving forward in his career in education, he aims to incorporate the knowledge gained throughout his hands-on, international experiences.
Prof. Mauricio Parra has established the Luis Leal fund that funds IWU students’ research in Hispanic Studies at IWU and abroad. The financial support of this fund comes directly from the sales of Mitos y leyendas de México, a collection of 20 popular legends recreated by the author, Luis Leal, and edited by Prof. Parra. The book, which includes original illustrations by acclaimed Mexican painter Álvaro Ángeles Suma, has been published in a bilingual edition. All proceeds will be used to fund the scholarship. Order a book (or two!) and be part of the supporting future students’

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