



Spring 2011

## Newsletter Spring 2011

Hispanic Studies, Illinois Wesleyan University

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## DEPARTMENT OF HISPANIC STUDIES NEWSLETTER SPRING 2011

**Editor's Note:** Hola! This newsletter aims to keep faculty, students and alumni up to date of our activities and achievements. We would like to encourage you to contact us with any news that you would like to share. Please email us at [hispanic@iwu.edu](mailto:hispanic@iwu.edu) or visit us at [www.iwu.edu/hispanic](http://www.iwu.edu/hispanic), don't forget to list what year you graduated! Saludos, Christina Isabelli

This year the department celebrated its **10<sup>th</sup> anniversary** at Homecoming. Graduates from several classes joined with faculty and friends of the department. For pictures of the event visit: <http://estudioshispanicos.wordpress.com/2011/03/20/el-departamento-de-hispanic-studies-celebra-su-10%C2%BA-aniversario>.

To celebrate **Hispanic Heritage Month** our students were encouraged to attend the Immigration Reform Forum. The keynote speaker was Marti Jones, executive director of the Immigration Project, a non-for-profit that offers immigration legal services throughout downstate Illinois. Jones also joined students on a discussion forum at Hansen Center. The Spanish and Latino Student Association and the Office of Multicultural Student Affairs sponsored the event.

Other co-curricular events included the participation of our faculty in the International Film Series. **Prof. Carmela Ferradáns** presented "The Secret in their Eyes" (2009, Argentina) and **Prof. Alejandro Enriquez** presented "Machuca" (2005, Chile). We were also visited by four alumni (**Matthew Brown '03**, **Zaya Fusco '05**, **Craig Knoche '02**, and **Brianna Welch '07**) at the Crystal Ball Coffeehouse for Foreign Languages who talked about their career choices and how studying a second language has enriched their careers and lives, we are proud of you!



**back row:** Christina Isabelli, Mauricio Parra, Arturo García, César Valverde, Carolyn Nadeau, Gayle Sauer  
**front row:** Allison Weiss, Carmela Ferradáns, Cecilia Sánchez, Alejandro Enriquez

### **CURRENT STUDENT ACTIVITIES:**

- Our *Hispanic Studies Outstanding Senior* award this year went to **Kari Grace**, **Kristen Hosack**, and **Jason Roeschley**.
- Special recognition goes to the following seniors for presenting their original research at this year's John Wesley Powell Student Research Conference: **Jennifer Fitton** "The Availability and Effectiveness of Health Information and Materials in Spanish in Bloomington-Normal, IL"; **Jaelyn Morrison** "Language Choice of High School Students in Central Illinois"; **Kathleen Zeman** "Spanish Language Representation in Illinois Media"; **Elizabeth White** "Violence in Religious Imagery: Representations of the Virgin Mary in Alfonso X's *Las Cantigas de Santa Maria*"; **Kristen Gattuso** '12 "Bilingual Education in Bloomington-Normal: The Here & Now and After"; **Jason Roeschley** "Lexical and Morphological Variations of Verbal Forms in the Spanish of Bilingual Youth in Bloomington-Normal, IL"; **Jenna Rowland** "Managing Hispanic Clientele: A Case Study of Language Policy at a Company in Bloomington, IL"; and **Colin Schofield** '12 "Meeting Students' Needs: A Qualitative Analysis of School Counseling Services."
- **Jason Roeschley** '11 was the recipient of a Fulbright English Teaching Assistant award in Mexico. This is the third Hispanic Studies student in the last three years to receive this opportunity. **Lauren Ostrowski** '05 is currently in Spain and **Rachel Slough** '07 completed her Fulbright in Chile in 2010. Congratulations!
- **Kari Grace** '11 and **Kristen Hosack** '11 were the recipients of a Sigma Delta Pi, National Collegiate Hispanic Honorary Society, summer scholarship in Spain. The award includes the cost of registration, tuition, room, and meals for four to six weeks. Congratulations!
- **Kirsten Frederickson** '12 carried out an internship at Western Avenue Community Center and learned in detail the type of Hispanic outreach WACC provides the Bloomington-Normal community. She presented her findings in a poster at this year's JWPC.
- **Kari Grace** '11 was awarded the Lincoln Laureate, an award that annually recognizes one student at each of the four-year, degree-granting institutions in Illinois for overall excellence in both curricular and extra-curricular programs.
- In the fall, students in Span 408 participated in the I Congreso de la Literatura Medieval Española. The program and a special video presentation by **Emmy Grace** '11 on the presence of the devil in medieval Spanish literature can be found at <http://estudioshispanicos.wordpress.com/category/literatura/>
- **Messifa Ankou** '11 has been accepted into Kent State University's graduate program in translation.

### **FACULTY/STAFF ACTIVITIES:**

- **Prof. Carolyn Nadeau** was named the Byron S. Tucci Professor of Spanish and also will be directing IWU's Barcelona program in the spring of 2012.
- **Prof. Alejandro Enriquez** presented his paper "Fanático Destructor or Incansable Constructor: Fray Diego de Landa's *Relación de las cosas de Yucatán* as an Act of Conquest" at the 2010 XXIX International Congress of the Latin American Studies Association in Toronto, Canada. In the fall, Prof. Enriquez successfully defended his doctoral dissertation entitled "Theaters of Rule, Theaters of Resistance: Franciscan Discourses of Spiritual Conquest in Colonial Yucatán, 1541–1688" at the University of Minnesota. In the spring, he organized and chaired a panel entitled "Colonial Anxiety in Early Spanish American Writing" at The Society of Early Americanists' Seventh Biennial Conference in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

### **Faculty/Staff Activities (cont.):**

- **Prof. César Valverde's** article "Modelos masculinos y violencia en *Sanctuary y Crónica de una muerte anunciada*" is forthcoming in the journal *Káñina*. He also wrote "The Latin American Novel," "Carmen Naranjo," "Manuel Puig" and "Mariano Azuela" for the forthcoming *World Literature in Spanish: An Encyclopedia*.
- In May **Prof. Mauricio Parra** will attend the III Coloquio Nacional de Historia de la Literatura Colombiana at the University of Antioquia, Colombia. He will read a paper entitled "La ciudad y sus fantasmas: espacios urbanos y las borraduras de la historia en la narrativa de Mario Mendoza". This conference is a gathering of some of the best-known specialists in his field of studies. Moreover, he will attend sessions to collect actualized information and class materials for the course that he will teach on contemporary Colombian Literature.
- **Prof. Carolyn Nadeau** has published two articles "Early Modern Spanish Cookbooks: The Curious Case of Diego Granado," in *Food and Language. Proceedings of the Oxford Symposium on Food and Cookery 2009*, ed. Richard Hosking (Totnes, England: Prospect Books, 2010): 237-46; and "Ensaladas calientes y carnero verde: imágenes de la vianda en la poesía satírico-burlesca de Francisco de Quevedo," in *La Perinola* 13 (2009): 313-26. She continues work on her next book, *Feeding Between the Lines: Discourses of Food in Early Modern Spanish Literature*.
- **Prof. César Valverde** presented "Masculinity, Violence and Redemption in *Sanctuary and Chronicle of a Death Foretold*" at the II Modern Languages Conference, Universidad de Costa Rica. During his off time from IWU he was invited to teach a course in the masters in literature program at the UCR titled "Love and Death in the American Novel" and is directing two masters theses titled "Masculinity and Parental Relationships in *I Never Sang for my Father*" and "Masculinity and Sexual Deviance in Ian McEwan's Short Stories."
- In August 2011 **Prof. Christina Isabelli** will present her research titled "Observing Census Enumeration of Illinois Spanish-Speaking Households in the 2010 Census" at the US Census Bureau in Washington, DC. In July 2010 she was invited to participate in the Middlebury College Round Table (Vermont) and presented "El desarrollo lingüístico de estudiantes universitarios durante una estancia en el extranjero: una ruptura de las expectativas tradicionales." Prof. Isabelli will be teaching again this summer in the Middlebury College Language School graduate program.
- In July **Prof. Mauricio Parra** will travel to California to present a paper entitled "The Characterization of Women in Gabriel García Marquez' *One Hundred Years of Solitude*" at the Colombian Cultural Center in Los Angeles. The presentation on this Nobel Prize Winner is part of his ongoing research and the materials gathered at this meeting will be used in the courses he teaches on Latin American Literature (Span 480 and 490). While in Los Angeles he will continue his work on a project he started last year with a group of poets on a special edition of *El Buho y el Cuervo*, a poetry journal published by the Association of American Poets of California. He is the guest editor for this special edition dedicated to the issue of how cotemporary Latin American poets living in exile use poetry to build communities. He is planning to finish this edition during his sabbatical in the spring of 2112.
- On November 4th 2010 the Latin American band, *Frontera*, one of whose members includes **Cecilia Sánchez**, Instructor of Spanish, presented at Barnes and Noble to fundraise for the YWCA in Bloomington. A second presentation was for the Global Health Gala at the IWU Memorial Center on April 3rd, 2011. The band provided a musical background for an event that was very well attended.

### Faculty/Staff Activities (cont.):

- **Prof. Christina Isabelli** directed the IWU London program in the fall of 2010.
- We warmly welcome the arrival of **Prof. César Valverde's** daughter, Maya, who was born on April 10<sup>th</sup> in Costa Rica.



- On November 20, 2010, our LRC and Spanish Language Coordinator **Allison Weiss**, soprano, and Nancy Pounds, pianist, performed twelve Argentine lullabies as part of The New Music Café series organized by the IWU School of Music. The lullabies, composed between 1919 and 1993, represented a wide variety of styles and perspectives on maternity, childhood, and creole identities in urban and rural Argentina. The works of several Latin

American artists accompanied the English translations of the songs, which were projected on the stage next to the performers. The slides from the concert can be viewed at <http://bit.ly/gHB7TP>.

- **Prof. Alejandro Enriquez** has accepted a tenure track position as Assistant Professor at Illinois State University. Alejandro is excited about his new job, but is also saddened to leave IWU.
- The Department of Hispanic Studies welcomes our new Visiting Associate **Prof. James Courtad**. He graduated from the University of Texas at Austin in 2001 with a PhD in Hispanic Literature. After graduation, he taught for eight years at Central Michigan University, and most recently at Bradley University. He specializes in Peninsular literature and culture, particularly from the 18<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. His research interests include the realist novel, travel literature, food representation in literature and women writers of Puerto Rico. Prof. Courtad resides in Normal with his wife Carrie Anna, a professor of Special Education at Illinois State University, and their two children.

### HISPANIC STUDIES ALUMNI: Keep the e-mails coming; we love to hear from you!

- **Lindsay Carlson** '10 is a Spanish teacher at a Colorado K-12 charter school dedicated to giving high poverty students a chance to succeed. Lindsay wrote to the department saying, "It's basically my dream job!"
- **Brett Cullen** '08 was selected for the US Department of Energy's Scholars Program in Washington, DC.
- **Deanna Deschler** '04 graduated from the Southern Illinois University School of Medicine and in June starts an emergency medicine residency in Grand Rapids, Michigan. This year she had the opportunity to participate in a cleft palate repair trip to Trinidad and went to Ecuador for a one-month medical Spanish elective, where she worked in an ER in a rural community. She is looking forward to using her Spanish in Grand Rapids since 20% of the ER patients there are Spanish-speaking.
- **John Hennessy** '00 has been teaching ESL in Chicago for over nine years and travels often to Spain and Latin America.
- **Jill Holm-Denoma** '01 is a clinical Assistant Professor in the Psychology Department at the University of Denver.
- **Lauren Jensen** '05 is a public services librarian at Monmouth College.
- Since leaving IWU **Clarissa Kastner** '06 has held many different jobs, but her favorites have been teaching English to immigrants in the US, community organizing with the immigrant population in Bloomington, IL, and teaching English to grade school students. She is applying to the Ethnic Studies program at the University of California in Berkeley.

### **Hispanic Studies Alumni (cont.):**

- **Molly May** '06 is head girls' volleyball coach for Lakes High School in Lake Forest, IL. Molly teaches Spanish.
- **Ryan Melleske** '00 is a lawyer in the firm Aria & Muñoz in Costa Rica. This firm was named Central America Law Firm of the Year. Ryan returned to campus last October and spoke both to classes and during an alumni panel for prospective lawyers at the IWU Hart Career Center.
- **Leila (Setork) Azarbad** '01 received a Ph.D. in clinical psychology from the University of Virginia and is currently an Assistant Professor/Psychologist at Rush University Medical Center in Chicago. Starting in September, she will join the Psychology Department of North Central College as their newest faculty member.
- **Julie Sternstein** '10 is currently working in Vera, Almeria with CIEE Teach Abroad in Spain for the academic year 2010-2011. She is teaching English to students aged 6 to 12. Check out her blog with amazing photos and adventures of her year. <http://julieinvera.blogspot.com>
- **Amanda Weier** '08 is currently teaching Spanish 1 in Chicago Public Schools through Teach for America.
- **Kent Wolf** '98 is a literary agent at Global Literary management in New York. Their website explains that "Over the last ten years Kent has handled the domestic and international licensing of thousands of titles with sales to publishers in the US, UK, Europe, and Asia (Random House UK, Bertelsmann in Germany, etc.), book clubs (Book-of-the-Month Club, Quality Paperback Book Club), audio publishers (Random House Audio, Books-on-Tape, Recorded Books, etc.), and magazines and newspapers (excerpts sold to *The New Yorker*, *Harper's*, *Playboy*, *The New York Times Magazine*, and *The Washington Post*, among others)."

### **A SPECIAL MESSAGE FROM MARGARET KOCHER '09**

(currently an English teacher in the JET Program living in Akita, Japan)

A few English teachers and I in Akita prefecture have started a relief group/grassroots organization called VolunteerAkita to get fruit to shelters housing earthquake/tsunami victims. We began to feel restless and static concerning relief for those only a few hours away from us. We wanted to help but a lot of the support groups were coming from Tokyo area down south (which is pretty far)...so we started our own group!! One of our teachers, Paul, made a donation run out to a few shelters in Miyagi and noticed that there was a good amount of fruit in the area stores but not enough money to get it to the shelters. Our goal is to raise enough money to supply fruit for three shelters.

With support from larger NGOs already in Japan, we created an amazing website to accept outside donations. We receive the donations, buy fruit from local suppliers, also helping the economy in the north, and drive it to Kesenuma, about 100 miles north of Sendai City in Miyagi Prefecture.

I know that people want to help but are hesitant to donate to large organizations like Red Cross. I hope that our actions will inspire current IWU students and Alumni to donate and help in the future.

Thank you so much! Margaret Kocher - Yurihonjo, Akita Prefecture, Japan  
If you would like to contact me, please email [loud.smooth.fiebre@gmail.com](mailto:loud.smooth.fiebre@gmail.com)  
Here is our website, now with an operating donation page for foreign funds.  
<http://volunteerakita.wordpress.com/>

## S N A P S H O T S

### 2010-2011 Sigma Delta Pi initiates



back: Nancy Vasquez (honorary member), Prof. Nadeau, Lorin Biosca, Jason Roeschley, Lindsey Iscler, Katy Buscio, Prof. Valverde, Prof. Parra  
middle: Mustafa Alavi, Kari Grace, Jaclyn Morrison, Emmy Grace, Cecilia Sánchez  
front: Mary Tackett, Stephanie Krausen, Prof. Isabelli



Students in Prof. Mauricio Parra's class preparing for a presentation.

## MORE SNAPSHOTS



Our graduating seniors, Hispanic Studies faculty/staff and President Wilson.



Adjunct Instructor Cecilia Sanchez, **Rachel Hatch '10**, Prof. Carolyn Nadeau, and President Dick Wilson at our Senior Luncheon

## ALUMNA PROFILE: JEAN JANECKI (1989)



Dr. Jean Janecki '89

Dr. Jean Janecki (Modern Languages) is finishing her fifth year as Assistant Professor of Spanish at University of Wisconsin – La Crosse. She completed her BA in 1989, and later went on to receive her MA from the University of Illinois at Chicago and PhD from the University of Wisconsin at Madison.

Her research includes modern Spanish poetry and painting, with special focus on Surrealism. She also enjoys Hispanic film and is active on campus presenting movies in Spanish for different occasions. Her publications include “Inmigrantes hispanoamericanos en el cine español: una visión doble” and "Teaching With Technology: New Approaches For Spanish Language, Literature and Culture Classes."

Professor Janecki is currently also the Director of the Language Resource Center and investigates instructional technology to use in teaching languages. (Her favorite tool is a “wiki” which she uses in all her classes.) She has presented her research in several regional, national and international conferences. Always involved in outside activities, she is the Spanish Club advisor, chair of the technology committee, and Hispanic Heritage Month organizer.

She also loves to travel, especially to Argentina and Spain, where she has lived before and now takes groups of students for short-term programs.

Her love of travel and the Hispanic culture developed greatly during her Junior Year Abroad and keeps on growing. She is grateful for the wonderful year in Madrid and encourages all students, regardless of major to see the world. You won't regret it!

## LUIS LEAL FUND



**Prof. 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 Suman, 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 supporting future students' research. To receive a copy, please fill out this form. For more information visit [mitosyleyendas.weebly.com](http://mitosyleyendas.weebly.com)

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