2013

Newsletter 2012-2013

Hispanic Studies, Illinois Wesleyan University

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Editor’s Note:

¡Hola! This newsletter aims to keep students and alumni up to date of our activities and achievements. We encourage you to contact us with any news that you would like to share. Please email us at cisabell@iwu.edu 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), for helping me put this year’s newsletter. Christina Isabelli
Current Student Activities

Hispanic Studies majors and minors across a variety of academic disciplines applied their studies in academic internships.

Internships

- **Nathan Douglas** (’14) has been awarded an Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Student Research Assistant to work on a seventeenth century cooking manual with Prof. Nadeau.
- **Kate Scott** (’13) has helped solve the mystery of a collection of arrowheads found in a basement at Illinois Wesleyan. Also during the summer, Scott worked at the Smithsonian Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage as a Campus and Community Intern.
- **Alejandro Mancera** (’15) and **Melissa Ramírez** (’14) completed their participation in the 2012 Summer Enrichment Program. Mancera completed his internship with Dr. Perera in the Physics department while Ramírez completed her internship with Heartland HeadStart.
- **Sylvia Rysin** (’13) created a guide for counseling undocumented high school teens. Teachers and counselors can better understand the issues faced by many undocumented children thanks to the resource guide created by Rusin.
- **Christine Gawron** (’14) from Chicago received $4,000 to study with SIT in Bolivia on their Multiculturalism, Globalization, and Social Change program.
- **Gisel Lopez** (’15) from Northlake, IL and **Callie Phipps** (’15) from Steger, Il, both nursing majors, received $4,500 to study in Spain as part of the IWU

Teaching Spanish

Many Hispanic Studies students have chosen to practice and share the Spanish language and culture through teaching and tutoring opportunities.

- **Danielle Jauregui** (’13) has been accepted to the CIEE program in Spain where she will assist in the teaching of English as a second language to students in either primary or secondary school.
- **Elizabeth Exo** (’13) has been hired to work as a kindergarten bilingual teacher in Chicago.
- **Hillary Anderson** (’13) has been accepted to teach in Memphis as a member of the 2013 Teach for America Corps.
- **Kylene Wolfe** (’13) has accepted a Spanish teaching position at Bloomington High School.
From our Alums

• Emmy Grace (‘11) has been admitted to the Natural Resources and Sustainable Development graduate program at American University. She will pursue an MA in International Affairs and also in Natural Resources and Sustainable Development at University for Peace in Costa Rica.
• Kari Grace (‘11) will begin the City and Regional Planning graduate program at UNC-Chapel Hill where she will pursue an MA.
• Christina Verherst (‘09) will pursue an MA in Spanish Literature at University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.
• Rachel Slough (‘07) has been admitted to the Marriage and Family Therapy graduate program at the University of Wisconsin-Stout.
• Sandra Gonzalez (‘10) will begin working with Teach for America this year in Chicago!
• Rachel Halfpap (‘08) and Erin Cox (‘08) got married at the Evelyn Chapel last August! Congratulations to you both!!
• Rich Kurtzman (‘98) onsite director of the IWU Spain Program is a new father to baby Jack. ¡Felicidades Rich!
• Rachel Dziallo Stalcup (‘01) is a new mother to baby Loraine Grace.
• Colin Schofield (‘12) presented his research Etnología del éxito académico: los tres lados at the XII Simposio Internacional de Comunicación Social in Cuba.
• Erin Howes (‘12) is currently working as an AmeriCorps volunteer working with Haitians in Florida.
• Ben Nelson (‘99) was promoted to Associate Professor at the University of South Carolina–Beaufort. ¡En hora buena Ben!
• Rachel Miller (‘09) recently married, will enter the graduate Teaching Program at the University of Illinois, Chicago. She has also accepted a position as teacher's assistant in a dual language elementary school.
• Hillary Sellers (‘09) moved to Houston to live with her fiancé and is now working at a hospital doing rehabilitation with patients who have difficulties speaking/swallowing following an accident.
• Dominique Forte Byrnes (‘05) is an elementary school teacher with a Spanish endorsement.
• Erin Bradley (‘10) is a project coordinator in Chicago with the Digital Learning Research Project. She co-authored a study, “Teens, Digital Media, and the Chicago Public Library.”

“As a Hispanic Studies major, what I learned in the classroom became more meaningful and valuable because I was able to bring some of that learning to life during my study abroad experience. Not only that, but being bilingual allows me to communicate across cultures and will give me an advantage over others in the job market.”
Faculty Accomplishments

Professor Nadeau

This year Carolyn Nadeau published three articles:


Professor Valverde

César Valverde recently published two articles:

• “Sacrificio, violencia y nación en Lituma en los Andes.” Cuaderno Internacional de Estudios Humanísticos y Literatura 17 (2012):

Professor Isabelli

Christina Isabelli published 3 co-authored manuscripts in 2012:

• with Rachel Slough ('09) “Acquisition of the non-generic definite article by Spanish learners of English as a Foreign Language.” Onomázein, volume 25, pp. 95-105.

Professor Courtad


¿Qué es... ¿Qué pasa?

Interested in following what’s happening in the department throughout the year? Then subscribe to our blog ¿Qué pasa? (http://blogs.iwu.edu/hispanic-studies/). Click on the link “log in” in the lower left-hand column and you will be notified anytime we have a new posting about things happening in and out of the classroom.
Más...

Cecilia Sánchez

Adjunct faculty member Cecilia Sánchez presented in the McLean County Museum of History "Genres in Latin American Music." She discussed music from the countries of Venezuela, Columbia, Ecuador, Bolivia, Chile and Argentina and performed selections from these countries using representative instruments.

Sharla Brown-Ajayi

Sharla Brown-Ajayi is the new office coordinator for MCLL and Hispanic Studies. Stop by her office in Buck's Language Resource Center to say hello. Welcome to IWU Sharla!

Arturo García Osorio

Adjunct faculty member Arturo García Osorio discussed the Day of the Dead rituals practiced in Mexico in contrast with celebrations of Halloween in the United States in an article published in the New York Times.

Above picture from Prof. Tari Renner’s mayoral win from the left: Prof. Nadeau, Kai Ajayi, Prof. Renner, unknown and Chad Sanders.
Past Events


La 10a cena anual de la herencia hispana

In October 2012, the Hispanic Studies Department organized a diner to celebrate poetry. For dinner, Chilean food was served and guests enjoyed Chilean poetry. Two students David Dimas (‘14) and Nathan Douglas (‘14) read “Oda a la cebolla” and “Oda al caldillo de congrio” while professor Mike Theune and poet Virginia Bell read each version in English. Also, Cecilia Sánchez performed two songs by Violeta Parra “La jardinera” and “Gracias a la vida.”
Poetry reading by Virginia Bell

Not long before the Hispanic Studies Banquet, Virginia Bell, author of the book *From the Belly*, visited an English class (Introduction to Poetry) as well as the Spanish course Introduction to Spanish Literature. She read some of her most inspired writings such as Cabeza de Vaca.

¡Aún queda tiempo para ver la exposición sobre México!

There is still time to attend ¡Fiesta! A Celebration of Mexican Popular Arts in the McLean County Museum of History. The exhibit is filled with wonderful pieces of art and artifacts from district regions of México. According to the McLean History Museum website, there are over 150 pieces of art made by the people of México, including ceramics, textiles, paper mache lacquerware, basketry, carved wood, leather glass, and more from every region of the country. The exhibit will run until August 30, 2014.
Sigma Delta Pi initiates - 2012-13

back from left: Prof. Nadeau, Chelsea Werries, Kathryn Robinette, Lauren Vorel, Svenja Schroeder, Julie Mangoff, Dana Marlin, Alex Bradford, Jenn Carrillo (honorary member), Sylvia Rusin
Front: Sarah Yount, Hillary Anderson, Monica Huback, Nora Peterson, Erica Vrkljan, Kate Scott, Emma Florio, Shelby Kottemann, Callie Ault, Aubrey Hayes

A big congratulations to IWU’s Sigma Delta Pi chapter for receiving a Chapter Project Grant Award for the 2012-13 academic year. Illinois Wesleyan along with Furman University, Illinois State and University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee were selected for this honor.

Sylvia Rusin ('13) – shown here at far right, was one of four inaugural presenters at Sigma Delta Pi's "Best Practices" session at the annual AATSP (American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese) Conference in San Antonio, Texas.
John Wesley Powell Undergraduate Research Conference 2013

Please join us in congratulating our majors and minors who presented their research project on Saturday April 21st at the John Wesley Powell Undergraduate Research Conference. Presentations ranged from oral presentation sessions and poster sessions. As you can imagine, these students worked really hard on their projects all year. ¡FELICIDADES!

Sylvia Rusin ('13)

Jenny Boll ('14) y Hannah Smith ('14)

Scott Meyers ('13)

Alejandro Monzón ('13)

Liz Exo ('13)
Hispanic Studies during the Year

La clase de “Medical Spanish and Cultural Competency for Health Care”, hizo una excursión al dpto. de salud pública del condado McLean.

SALSA presenta su evento anual Barrio Fiesta! Every year the Spanish and Latino Student Association celebrates Hispanic/Latino heritage and culture through song, dance and food by representing countries such as Colombia, Mexico, Peru, Argentina, Brazil, and more.
“I think that my Hispanic Studies major sets me apart because I am now equipped to work with so many more people and on so many more issues because of my understanding of the Spanish language and culture. In today's global society, you can't deny the value of that.”
Congratulations Class of 2013
Hispanic Studies Majors/Minors
Luis Leal Fund
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’ research. To receive a copy, please fill out this form. For more information visit http://www.iwu.edu/hispanic/luis-leal/

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