

Indiana University Department of Spanish & Portuguese Alumni Newsletter



La Gaceta Internacional

College of Arts & Sciences Alumni Association

Vol. 12/Fall 2006

IU's Madrid Program — 40 years young!

In the past year, the Indiana University Program in Madrid quietly reached its 40th year of operation. In the early 1960s, **Merle E. Simmons**, professor emeritus, led a delegation of IU and Purdue faculty to select partner institutions in Europe. The University of Wisconsin joined IU and Purdue a few years later, so the program today at the *Universidad Complutense* in Madrid is known as “WIP,” a consortium managed by IU’s Office of Overseas Study.

During these 40 years, 12 faculty members from IU Bloomington have served as the program’s resident director (RD) and all but one (**Robert Arnove**, School of Education) were from Spanish and Portuguese (**Maryellen Bieder**; **Fred Bouma**; **Clancy Clements**; **John Dowling**; **Catherine Larson**; **Kathleen Myers**; **Daniel Quilter**, three-time RD; **Russell Salmon**; **Merle Simmons**; **Josep Sobrer**; and **Jon Strolle**). Two other IU RDs were **Virginia Craig** (IPFW) and **Nancy Newton** (IUPUI). **Consuelo López-Morillas** will direct the program in 2007–08. Each director has left his or her imprint on the program, overseeing various changes and developments, from creating policies and procedures to hiring staff, acquiring new space, and implementing new technologies. In 1965, the RD worked alone with some part-time assistance, while today the RD works in Madrid as part of a team of four, which includes an assistant director, **Mamen Castaño**, a student services coordinator, **Amy Olson**, and a student assistant from the *Complutense*.

Over the 40 years, nearly 650 IU students have witnessed a range of critical moments in Spanish history through the lens of the WIP program — the Franco regime, the death of the dictator, the restoration of the monarchy, the transition to full democracy, the attempted *coup d’etat*, the first socialist government, numerous ETA bombings, and the Al Qaeda-related event of 2004. According to **Dan Quilter**,

associate professor emeritus, his directorship at key periods in the ’60s, ’70s, and ’80s had a major impact on the courses he taught back at IUB.

Spain today is a very different society from 40 years ago, yet students have embraced each era with an adventurous and inquisitive spirit. Madrid alumni have careers in many different fields, including law, academia, publishing, and governmental affairs. **Sherry Rhodes**, BA’84, a Spanish/political science major in Madrid in ’82–’83, said during a recent visit to IU that the program launched her on an international career in the Federal Bureau of Information Services. Studying in Madrid gave her the lifelong desire as well as the cultural skills to work in an international environment.

Professor **Maryellen Bieder**, IU’s most recent RD, points out that “the program offers students a unique opportunity to experience the life of a Spanish university student: the differences in classroom dynamics, teaching styles, contact with pro-



Students in the WIP program, 2005, enjoy a cultural trip to Segovia, near Madrid.

fessors, final exams, and even the academic calendar. It gives them a new perspective on their education at Indiana University

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From the chair

On to greener pastures



Josep M. Sobrer

For us folks in the academic world, summers are times of transformation. For the department as a whole, the summer of 2006 brought more changes than we had bargained for. It is during the summer that new faculty arrive in Bloomington eager to start a new appointment, and often a new phase in their careers, and somewhat fretful of what Indiana University and our department may hold in store for them. Two new assistant professors have just joined us (see page 6).

This past summer was not only a time for welcoming, but also for saying farewell. Professor **Clancy Clements** took a position at the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque, where the pastures are greener only symbolically. Toward the end of the spring semester, Professor **Juan Carlos Conde** announced his decision to accept a position at Oxford University in England; this time, the pastures may be also literally greener. Professor Conde had been chosen by the faculty to be our next chair; his departure left a double vacuum, and I was drafted to fill part of it. Our longtime colleague

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Departmental News

Alumna Marjorie Agosín gives lecture

The Department of Spanish and Portuguese hosted the 2006–07 *Merle E. Simmons Distinguished Alumni* (MESDA) lecture and welcomed back alumna **Marjorie Agosín**, MA'77, PhD'82 (Hispanic literature).

Agosín, human-rights activist and writer, is a professor of Spanish at Wellesley College and is recognized in both North and South America as one of the most versatile and provocative of the current generation of Latin American writers. Professor Agosín has published various creative works in poetry, memoirs, works of fiction and nonfiction, anthologies, and critical essays in different venues. In 1995, she received two prestigious awards given to Latino writers: the *Letras de Oro* prize and the Latino Literature prize for two collections of her poetry.

During her visit to Indiana University on Oct. 12–13, Agosín delighted us with two events. A poetry reading was attended by graduate students and faculty members from the Department of Spanish and Portuguese. In addition, Professor Agosín



Professors Marjorie Agosín and Russ Salmon

delivered a lecture titled “Writing Towards Hope,” which was well-attended by students and faculty from many departments. During her lecture, she shared her personal experiences as a Chilean and a Jewish poet. She also discussed how the political and social history of Chile has shaped and influenced her poetry.

Adiós to Linda Vaught, valued colleague

A dear colleague and friend, **Linda Prince Vaught**, retired from Indiana University in June of this year. Vaught served in various positions within the university before joining the Department of Spanish and Portuguese in 1989 as the graduate secretary. Shortly thereafter, she was promoted to administrative assistant and secretary to the chair (now known as the fiscal officer), where she made an impression on all who passed through the department, no matter how briefly.

Through the years Vaught was a valuable asset. She was the source of information, the go-to person for managing the seemingly endless amount of administrative red tape, the keeper of all documents, keys, financial records, mementos, secrets, sewing kits, and of most significance, our trust. We relied on her to know the answers, ask the right questions, and keep everything running in top order. She represents an incredible amount of departmental history, much of which cannot be stored in file cabinets.

We wish Vaught the very best in her retirement, as she spends her days frolicking in her flower gardens, shopping for antiques with her husband and friends, and spending quality time with her children and grandchildren. All of us who had the privilege of knowing and working with her want to thank her for her dedicated service to the Department of Spanish and Portuguese.



Changing of the guard: Linda Vaught, left, and Tracy Sheets during the busy days of transition.

Lectures, activities

In addition to the many intellectual events covered elsewhere in this newsletter, the department hosted a number of scholars from various disciplines in 2005–06. Among the invited were **Gina Herrmann** (University of Oregon), “A Tale of Two Documentaries: Mass Graves on Spanish TV,” after a screening of the film *Fosas del silencio*; **Brett Levinson** (SUNY-Binghamton), “The Aesthetic Revolution of the People in Borges” and a workshop on aesthetics and hegemony; a dual lecture by **Maarten Van Delden** (Rice University), “The Incomplete End of Modernity in Octavio Paz,” and **Evodio Escalante** (Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana), “Octavio Paz y sus nexos con el romanticismo: una primera aproximación”; **Esther Hamburger** (Universidade de São Paulo), “Gender and Genre: News and Fiction in the Telenovelas”; and Argentine novelist **Sergio Chejfec**, “El nombre vacío de la memoria,” along with a workshop titled “Sísifo en Buenos Aires.”

Intradepartmental activities were also numerous and added, as always, to the cultural and intellectual climate in Ballantine Hall. Such events included the Brown Bag Lecture Series in Literature and Culture and in Hispanic Linguistics, the Luso-Brazilian Film Series, an annual spring event, and a new fall initiative, the film series *Semana de cine español contemporáneo*.

Indiana University's network of alumni chapters in major metropolitan areas around the world provides stimulating, enriching, and exciting activities to keep members of the IU family connected to the university — lifelong and worldwide. With programs such as faculty presentations, cultural events, career networking forums, and activities to recharge your Hoosier spirit, IU alumni chapters provide a lifetime of opportunities to keep you connected, wherever you live. To find an alumni chapter in your area, call (800) 824-3044, send e-mail to ialumni@indiana.edu, or visit www.alumni.indiana.edu.

Department hosts festival to celebrate culture

On March 31, 2006, the department hosted the *Festival de Culturas Hispanas: ¡Ven a conocernos!* The festival's goal was to provide students in the department's undergraduate courses with an opportunity to experience the rich and varied cultures of Latin American countries and Spain. Held at the Leo Dowling International Center, the event offered a variety of sessions in which students were able to explore, learn, and exchange ideas about various topics relating to Latin America and Spain.

Twelve presentations given in four different sessions, cultural posters designed by students of S275 Introduction to Hispanic Culture, and table displays representing cultures, traditions, and artifacts formed the festival's core. The presentations were delivered mostly by department instructors, along with some members of the Indiana Latin American Student Association. Presentations covered a wide range of topics, from Spanish, Venezuelan, and Colombian cuisine to language-focused presentations on different varieties of Spanish, Mayan hieroglyphics, and the indigenous Mexican language Nahuatl. Other topics included Latin dance and cinema, Spanish architecture and music, and a look at Mexico during the colonial period. Presenters included Sarah Adams, Jorge Aguilar-Sánchez, Ceniaida Alvis Barranco, Elixabete Ansa-Goicoechea, Liliana Caballero, Marcus Erickson, María del Pilar File-Muriel, Carolina Gamboa, Pablo García, Lorenzo García-Amaya, Nicholas Henriksen, Camilo Hernández, Catalina Méndez, Inmaculada Navarro, Greg Newall, Raiza Piña, Jennifer Smith, Giovanna Urdangarain, and Stephanie Woody.

S275 instructors selected the best posters from their sections, and a committee selected the final eight to be displayed at the festival. Guests were encouraged to ask questions and interact with those who had prepared the posters. Colorful and elaborate table displays represented cultures of several countries, including Costa Rica, Colombia, Uruguay, Mexico, Spain, and Brazil, as well as Latinos in the United States, the *Chiricú* journal, and the Latin American and Caribbean Studies Program.

Authentic Mexican cuisine was a favorite at the festival. The IU Latin American Music Center was represented by the Malena Tango Quintet playing Astor Piazzolla's music (new tango). The festival concluded with closing remarks and door prizes contributed by selected local restaurants.

More than 450 students (undergraduate, graduate, and even some from local high schools), faculty, and community members



Graduate student Ceniaida Alvis Barranco is ready to talk about Colombia, her home country.

attended the event. It was an impressive cultural exchange and a much-appreciated contribution to the department's mission of bringing Latin culture to life for our stu-

dents. This event was organized by Silvana Falconi, director of language instruction, with the help, interest, and enthusiasm of department instructors and staff.

Madrid

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and another facet of cultural differences."

While the program itself has undergone a series of changes, its overall design remains the same, although a spring-only option was added a decade ago. Upon arrival, students attend a pre-session on language and culture while they acclimate to their environment. Afterward, they attend courses on the campus of the *Complutense*. Some of the courses have been designed for U.S. students with an interest in Spanish literature, art, politics, geography, philosophy, film, linguistics, sociology, and economics.

For the first time, beginning in 2006-07, students can take a service-learning course so they can have a meaningful community-service experience while learning about urban realities in Madrid. These courses are offered through a consortium, *Universidades Reunidas*, created in 1967 when the *Complutense* was often on strike. Once the university became more tranquil after the transition to democracy, WIP began to give students access to *Complutense* classes. Today, all WIP students take some *Complutense* courses on topics as diverse as Las mujeres del Antiguo Régimen to Mitología griega.

For the first 20 years, WIP students

lived exclusively with host families. For the past 20 years, they have arranged to live in apartments with other students, almost always native speakers of Spanish. They have found that living with their own generation gives them an important cultural experience and keeps their Spanish vocabulary "*al corriente*." The program arranges excursions a few times each semester. According to Professor Bieder, "the highlight of the experience for me was sharing with the students their discovery of some of Spain's most famous cities — Segovia, Toledo, Córdoba — and enjoying with them visits to regions of Spain they would likely never visit on their own — Extremadura or Galicia. The group trips broaden students' awareness of the historical and cultural differences among Spain's *Comunidades Autónomas* and give them an appreciation for Spain's diverse geography, architecture, and cultural and linguistic heritage."

Although other Spanish cities have grown popular as study abroad sites throughout the years — cosmopolitan Barcelona currently seems to be attracting many students — Madrid continues to have a special allure that inevitably draws students to this "*castizo*" area of Spain. For more information and a slide show, see www.indiana.edu/~overseas/flyers/madrid.html.

Symposium honors the works of writer Pedro Juan Soto

The department co-hosted a symposium on the works of Puerto Rican writer **Pedro Juan Soto** (1928–2002) together with the Chicano-Riqueño Studies Program, the Department of History, and several other departments. Soto, author of *Spiks* and *Usmail*, migrated to the United States during the post–World War II period. He is one of the first authors to have written about issues of Puerto Rican identity.

The symposium was held Nov. 10–11, 2005, at the IMU Faculty Club and included lectures by **Victor Simpson** (University of the West Indies, Barbados), **Jorge Duany** (University of Puerto Rico), and **Diana Vélez** (University of Iowa), as well as **Luis Dávila** (Chicano-Riqueño Studies Program), **Vivian Halloran** (Department of Comparative Literature), and **John Nieto-Phillips** (Department of History).



Rendering of Pedro Juan Soto by Puerto Rican painter Augusto Marín.

Lectures focused on issues of migration and cultural identity of the Puerto Rican and Cuban diasporas in Soto's novels and short stories as well as a roundtable in which invited speakers discussed the influence of Soto's works in contemporary Puerto Rican literature.

Parallel events included a chronological exhibit of Soto's life and works at the Herman B Wells Library by area librarian **Luis González**; the showing of the movie "El gallo pelón" (script by Soto) through La Casa Movie Series, followed by a discussion moderated by **Yeidy Rivero** (Department of Communication and Culture); and a discussion session on Latino identity between **Jorge Duany** and Latino students at the Latino Cultural Center (La Casa).

The symposium was co-organized by **Luis Dávila**, **Juan Manuel Soto Arriví**, and **Arlene Díaz** (Department of History).

Scholar-in-Residence visits add dimension

Spring 2006

Professor **Norma Mendoza-Denton** (University of Arizona) was invited as our Scholar-in-Residence on March 6–8, 2006. Mendoza-Denton completed her PhD in 1997 at Stanford University. She is an active researcher who has contributed to the study of areas such as sociophonetics, language and identity, and language and gender issues. Her most recent work is related to sociophonetics and bilingualism, gesture and intonation, and discourse and literacy practices among U.S. Latina girl gangs. She has a book in press with Blackwell Publishing titled *Homegirls: Symbolic Styles in the Making of Latina Girl Gangs*.

Mendoza-Denton gave two public lectures during her visit, "Smile Now, Cry Later: Memorializing Practices Linking Language, Materiality, and Embodiment Among California Latina/o Youth" and "Face-Threatening Acts in Congressional Town Hall Meetings: Semiotic Layering in Gesture and Intonation." She also participated as a guest speaker in Professor **Manuel Díaz-Campos**'s graduate class, Topics in Linguistic Variation and Language in Context, where she shared her expertise in probabilistic sociolinguistics.

Fall 2006

The department's fall 2006 Scholar-in-Residence, **K. David Jackson** (professor of Portuguese at Yale), was on campus during the week of Oct. 8–13. He presented a public lecture on Fernando Pessoa's heteronym, Álvaro de Campos ("Clearly Non-Campos! Álvaro de Campos' Song of Non-Self"), and workshops on "Camões *Os Lusíadas* and the Age of Technology" and "The Portuguese Presence in Japan." A departmental reception was held in his honor, and he was hosted at luncheons and dinners by graduate students and faculty in Portuguese.

His arrival at IU coincided with the appearance of two publications of interest to Lusophone scholars and students: *The Oxford Anthology of the Brazilian Short Story*, which Professor Jackson organized and edited; and *Studies in Honor of Heitor Martins*, edited by **Darlene J. Sadlier** in tribute to her former colleague in the department, Professor Emeritus of Spanish and Portuguese **Heitor Martins**. The *Festschrift*, which includes essays by K. David Jackson, Silviano Santiago, Argemiro Ferreira, Walter Mignolo, and others, was officially presented to Professor Martins during the reception for Professor Jackson.



K. David Jackson

From the chair

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Professor **Mary Clayton** has announced that she will retire at the end of 2006; read on for her story. Another departure was that of senior lecturer **Katy Ratcliff**, whose life called her to other activities in the always-green pastures of our fair Bloomington. We in the department will miss their friendly and stimulating presences; we wish them the very best and hope to see them back home again in Indiana.

Another sad and joyful departure — sad for us, joyful for her as she now enjoys the freedoms of retirement — has been that of our longtime administrative assistant, **Linda Vaught** (formerly Linda Prince), whom I am sure many of you remember fondly. Linda retired from IU after 28 years of service to the university, of which the last 17 were spent in our department, mostly in room 802 of Ballantine Hall. However, we have found a splendid replacement for Linda in our new administrative assistant, **Tracy Sheets**, who has adapted quickly to our ways and is doing a wonderful job. For Tracy, the summer has been one of transformation also, as she changed her name from Tracy Johnson by marrying Del Sheets.

Transformed to greater or lesser degrees, the rest of us have started the new year with vigor and with some new initiatives: a "Semana de cine español" taking place as I write this note and a student-led theatrical venture, VIDA, with a production coming out in December at a downtown theater. For these and continuing initiatives, read on.

— *Josep Miquel Sobrer, Interim Chair*
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Farewell to Mary Clayton and 35 years of history

At the end of the fall semester, Associate Professor **Mary Clayton** will retire after 35-and-a-half years in the Department of Spanish and Portuguese. Professor Clayton holds a BA in Latin and Spanish from the University of South Florida ('64) and MA ('68) and PhD ('74) degrees in general linguistics from the University of Texas at Austin.

She came to IU in the fall of 1971. She has taught graduate-level courses in Spanish Phonology, Spanish Historical Grammar, and Latin American Dialectology, in addition to Spanish Phonetics at the undergraduate level. She was director of the Hispanic Linguistics Program from 1974 to 1979, 1981 to 1991, and 1996 to 1997. She saw her main responsibility as director as being an advocate both for her students and for the field of Spanish linguistics.

Clayton's research areas began with the interaction between Latin and Spanish phonetic data (synchronic, diachronic, and dialectal) and theories of phonology and morphology, always looking for the implications of particular problems for general linguistic theory. Clayton is especially gratified to have been able to publish in *Language*, the journal of the Linguistic Society of America, and to have served a three-year term as one of its associate editors. She joined two colleagues, **R. Joe Campbell** and **Mark Goldin**, in hosting LSRL III, the Third Linguistic Symposium on Romance Languages, held at IU and sponsored in part by the Department of Spanish and Portuguese in the spring of 1973.

In the middle years of her career at IU, her research interests took a few sharp turns. First, she encountered Nahuatl, the language of the Aztecs and, in modern times, the language of many villagers in central Mexico. Her husband, **R. Joe Campbell**, whom she had married in 1978, taught Nahuatl at IU at that time. She was intrigued when an editor asked her to consider the possible importance of an anonymous trilingual manuscript dictionary (Spanish, Latin, and Nahuatl) held by the Newberry Library in Chicago. The discovery of this manuscript, which had never received serious scholarly attention, led her to undertake a major project: a paleographic transcription of the text, a morphological analysis of all of its Nahuatl words, an alphabetical Nahuatl dictionary (the manu-



Mary Clayton in 1975 — and Mary Clayton in 2006 (with furry friend Charlie Evinrude)

script itself is alphabetized by Spanish), and a thorough study of the manuscript and its contents and possible authorship. This major change in research focus required her to learn paleography as she went on to read extensively in lexicography and in various aspects of early colonial Mexican history and culture. It felt, she says, like going back to graduate school.

Although the edition that she has

added and averaged by hand. In those days, assistant professors taught nine to 13 hours rather than the current six, and registration required a week of handing out cards in the field house — a job in which AIs and assistant professors were expected to take two or three half-day sessions. Copies were made with carbon paper or ditto masters rather than photocopy machines, and errors were corrected with an eraser — and a razor blade for the dittoes.

Clayton anticipates that in some ways, retirement will be quite a change. She states, "For the first time since I was 5 years old, I will be able to just live in the world without responsibilities defined by others." In addition to gardening and returning to such forgotten activities as bird-watching, nature

photography, sewing, and playing the piano, she plans to devote the majority of her time to the Nahuatl dictionary project. In connection with this project, she has been invited to take part next July in a presentation and panel discussion at a workshop, sponsored by the Newberry Library and the University of Warwick (United Kingdom) and funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, on "European and New World Forms of Knowledge in Colonial Spanish America," to be held at the Newberry Library.

She says, "I certainly will not be retiring from linguistics, but simply from teaching and departmental service. Recently, I sat down at the computer to make a list of interesting research topics for exploration and came up with an even dozen before moving my hands from the keyboard, and I've added a few others since then. I suspect there may not be much time for bird-watching after all."

"I certainly will not be retiring from linguistics, but simply from teaching and departmental service."

— Associate Professor Mary Clayton

prepared could have been published years ago, she is waiting to publish the entire project at once. She received a National Endowment for the Humanities Research Grant (\$83,800) for the preparation of the dictionary, which allowed her to make great strides, but the addition of new components to the project have delayed its completion. She says that her most important finding is that the author of the Nahuatl equivalents was most likely not a Spanish friar, but rather a native speaker of Nahuatl. Her research in this area has been published in the *International Journal of American Linguistics* and the *International Journal of Lexicography*.

Clayton notes that much has changed in the past 35 years. In particular, she recalls gladly paying \$54 for her first calculator (a substantial sum at a time when the salaries of assistant professors were less than current AI salaries), since before that time long lists of first- and second-year grades had to be

Faculty News

Books and awards

Maryellen Bieder has received a number of research grants, including an International Projects and Activities Grant from the Office of International Programs in support of her project “Emilia Pardo Bazán in the Press and the Private Album,” an Exploration Traveling Fellowship from the New Frontiers in the Arts and Humanities program for library and archival research in Madrid, a Summer Faculty Fellowship from the Office of the Vice President for Research for “Women in the Public Eye: Mapping Images of Women in the Spanish Periodical Press,” and a grant from the College Arts and Humanities Institute for a one-course release during academic year 2006–07.

Deborah Cohn received an Exploration Traveling Fellowship from the New Frontiers in the Arts and Humanities program, which enabled her to research current projects as well as interview Peruvian writer **Mario Vargas Llosa** while in the United Kingdom.

Manuel Díaz-Campos was granted a one-course release for this academic year from the College Arts and Humanities Institute for his research project “Examining Sociolinguistic Variation in Spanish.”

Melissa Dinverno was promoted to associate professor with tenure this summer. She was selected to be a member of the state-wide Faculty Colloquium on Excellence in Teaching in recognition of distinction in teaching. She also earned a West European Studies Faculty Research grant for a book project, “Deconstructing Lorca: Identity, Culture, and Nation in Contemporary Spain.”

Patrick Dove was selected as a faculty fellow for a seminar titled “After History: Memory, Ethics, and Literature in Post-Dictatorship Argentina” at the Poynter Center for the Study of Ethics and Ameri-

can Institutions at IU. He was appointed by the NEH Summer Stipend Committee as one of IU’s two nominees to NEH for summer 2007 for his project “Literature, Mass Media, and History in Argentina.” In addition, he received an Exploration Travel Fellowship from the New Frontiers in the Arts and Humanities program for research on “Memory, History, and Technics in Post-Dictatorship Argentine Literature.”

John P. Dyson, associate professor emeritus, received the first-ever Chickasaw Heritage Preservation Award in October of this year for his article “Chickasaw Village Names from Contact to Removal: 1540–1835.”

César Félix-Brasdefer was awarded a Summer Faculty Fellowship from the Office of the Vice President for Research to

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Department welcomes new faculty members

Lusophone literatures

Luciana Namorato (PhD, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill) is our new assistant professor of Lusophone literatures. Her research explores postcolonial identities in modern and contemporary Portugal, Africa, and Brazil. In her forthcoming monograph, *Identidades multiculturais: diálogos intertextuais entre Machado de Assis, Jorge Luis Borges e Antônio Fernando Borges*, Namorato examines redefinitions of nationhood and cultural hybridity in Latin American literatures. She has co-edited a critical edition of a 19th-century Portuguese drama, Guiomar Torresão’s play *O fraco da baronesa*. Namorato has also published several articles on contemporary Brazilian writers, including Bernardo Carvalho and Antonio Fernando Borges.

Namorato has taught a wide variety of courses, including all levels of Portuguese language, Lusophone literatures and cultures in English translation, race and identity in Lusophone Africa, as well as interdisciplinary Latin American literature courses. She has also taught in the Portuguese Summer School at Middlebury College.

Hispanic linguistics

Professor **Erik Willis** joins our department from New Mexico State University and “returns” to the Midwest where he earned his PhD at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 2003. Willis researches Spanish phonology and variation based on



Luciana Namorato



Erik Willis

laboratory analysis. His dissertation examined the intonational system of Dominican Spanish. Recent projects have examined the vowel system of Southwest Spanish, trill production and variation in the Dominican Republic, and stop consonant production in Mexican Spanish. These research projects have been published in the journal *Linguistics*, *Southwest Journal of Linguistics*, *Laboratory Approaches to Spanish Phonology*, and proceedings from the Linguistic Symposium on Romance Languages and the Hispanic Linguistics Symposium. Professor Willis has taught all levels of Spanish, introductory courses in general linguistics and Spanish linguistics, and graduate courses in Spanish phonology and dialectology.

Visiting professors

The department welcomes the assistance of three visiting assistant professors teaching 300-level language and literature courses this year. They are **Paula Sanmartín** (University of Texas, Austin), **Greg Schelonka** (Johns Hopkins University), and **Estela Vieira** (Yale University).

La Gaceta Internacional

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Student News

Graduate news

Department graduate students have undertaken a new initiative, Grupo de teatro VIDA, a Spanish-language performance group. The group's aim is to produce plays that foster cultural understanding and promote the richness of Hispanic culture and expression through live theater. For the inaugural season, they will present a series of one-act plays in a show titled *Trampa o triunfo: El engaño en las manos de una mujer* (Trick or Triumph: Deceit in a Woman's Hands) at the John Waldron Arts Center as part of the Bloomington Area Arts Council 2006–07 Performance Series. Executive officers for the group include **Maria Hasler**, **Cara Kinnally**, **Andrew Reynolds**, and **Marda Rose**. Professor **Josep Miquel Sobrer** serves as faculty adviser.



Courtesy of Indiana University

Nicholas Henriksen, a doctoral student in Hispanic linguistics, was selected for this honor after having received the Departmental AI Teaching

Award last year. This award honors Henriksen for his uniquely creative teaching abilities and vested involvement in his students' education.

Zak Montgomery was awarded the Agapito Rey Academic-Year Fellowship, and **Jason McCloskey** earned the Agapito Rey Summer 2006 Dissertation Fellowship. **Zak Montgomery** was also the recipient of the department's Associate Instructor Teaching Award, while **Giovanna Urdangarain** earned an honorable mention for the award. Foreign Language Area Scholarships, funded by Yale University, were granted to **Ryan Hallows** and **Paul Kanszuzewski** to study Portuguese at the Yale campus and in Parati, Brazil.

Agapito Rey Travel Grants were awarded to **Renato Alvim**, **Elixabete Ansa-Goicoechea**, **Yudis Contreras**, **Justine D'Amico**, and **Carmen Ruiz-Sánchez**. Also, **Andrew Reynolds** and **Carmen Ruiz-Sánchez** received College of Arts and Sciences Travel Grants. **Jason McCloskey** was selected to receive the College of Arts and Sciences Fall 2006 Travel Award in order to present his research at the MLA in Philadelphia.

Congratulations to the following who earned the PhD this year: **Andrew Deiser**, **Pablo García**, **José Garza**, **Lisa Kurišćák**, **Elias Lorenzo-Lorenzo**, **Paul Nelson**, **Jennifer Smith**, and **Emily Stow**. Completing PhD qualifying exams were **Yudis**

Contreras, **Justine D'Amico**, **Aarnes Gudmestad**, **Joshua Hamilton**, **Eric Harzman**, **Lily Ibarra**, **Viktoria Kadas**, **Paul Malovrh**, and **Carmen Ruiz-Sánchez**. Receiving the MA degree this year were **Sarah Adams**, **Jorge Aguilar-Sánchez**, **Virginia Arreola**, **Elizabeth Bransdorfer**, **Jennifer Brondell**, **Stephen Figert**, **Ryan Hallows**, **Nicholas Henriksen**, **Camilo Hernández**, **Elisabeth McNinch**, **Brantley Nicholson**, **Jennifer O'Daniel**, **Audrey Richardson**, **Jeremy Sprague**, **Michelle Tolan**, and **Stephanie Woody**.

We offer best wishes to the following who have secured tenure-track positions for this academic year: **Pablo García** (St. Anselm College, Manchester, N.H.), **Paul Nelson** (Drury University, Springfield, Mo.), and **Jennifer Smith** (Southern Illinois University at Carbondale).

The graduate student advisory committee hosted the third annual Graduate Student Conference on Luso-Brazilian and Hispanic Literature, Linguistics, and Culture on Feb. 25–26, 2006 on the Bloomington campus. Keynote speaker Professor **Joseba Gabilondo** (University of Nevada, Reno) presented "Periphery Versus Border: The Hispanic Atlantic, Subaltern Cultures, and the Internet." The fourth annual conference is planned for Feb. 24–25, 2007.

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Faculty news

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pursue his project "Linguistic Politeness in Mexico and the U.S.: A Contrastive Study of Refusals." Also, he co-edited, with Kathleen Bardovi-Harlig and Alwiya Omar, *Pragmatics and Language Learning*, (2006), Vol. 11, University of Hawaii Press.

Professor **Kimberly Geeslin** received the 2006 Faculty Mentor Award, presented by the Graduate Student Advisory Committee at the department's fall reception.

Consuelo López-Morillas received a CASA III Fellowship (Center for Arabic Study Abroad) from the American Uni-



Kimberly Geeslin

versity in Cairo for spring 2007 to study the history of Quranic commentary in the medieval Arab world and in Spain.

Darlene Sadlier edited, with **Zak Montgomery** and **Renato Alvim** as assistant editors, *Studies in Honor of Heitor Martins*, Luso-Brazilian Literary Series, vol. 3, Bloomington: Department of Spanish and Portuguese. She was this year's recipient of the Trustees Teaching Award for Spanish and Portuguese.

Josep Miquel Sobrer published a translation from the Catalan of Mercè Rodoreda, *A Broken Mirror*, with an introduction (University of Nebraska Press, 2006) and a book of his essays, *Desfer les Ameriques. Contradiccioniari* (Galerada, 2006).

Reyes Vila-Belda was awarded an Exploration Travel Fellowship from the New Frontiers in the Arts and Humanities program to conduct research for her book project "Gloria Fuertes: Poetry Against Silence."

'The Other Golden Age'

Friday, Jan. 12, 2007

The IU Department of Spanish and Portuguese is hosting a new series in which recent outstanding PhD graduates will return to give lectures and share their research on Hispanic culture.

Speakers for this first colloquium will be **Robert Bayliss**, PhD'03 (assistant professor, University of Kansas); **Ana Benito**, MA'97, PhD'04 (assistant professor, Indiana University-Purdue University, Fort Wayne); **Millie Gimmel**, MA'96, PhD'03 (assistant professor, University of Tennessee); and **Miguel Ángel Vázquez**, MA'94, PhD'01 (assistant professor, Florida Atlantic University).

See our Web site for further information about this event and others: www.indiana.edu/~spanport/.

Read more about Department of Spanish and Portuguese faculty at www.indiana.edu/~spanport/facultyArea.shtml



Student news

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For more information about this upcoming event, contact **Virginia Arreola** at vareola@indiana.edu.

Undergraduate news

Statistically speaking, the department continues to expand, not only in the language program where a vast number of students study Spanish to fulfill the foreign language requirement set forth by the College of Arts and Sciences, but most notably with those students who opt to major and minor in our language offerings. In total, we can boast of 258 students claiming a major in Spanish or Portuguese, in a variety of combinations with other units within the College or other schools. We processed 224 minor applications this past year, with an estimated total of between 700–900 students working toward a minor in the department at any given time. Obviously, we are bursting at the seams in the corner offices on the eighth floor of Ballantine Hall.

We are proud to announce that **Kathleen Claussen**, BA'06, was named one of 12 national recipients of the 2006–07 George J. Mitchell Scholarship. This scholarship recognizes outstanding young Americans who exhibit the highest standards of academic excellence, leadership, and service, and is one of the most prestigious, intensely competitive fellowship programs in the United States. **Zachariah Overley**, a Spanish major, received one of the two Palmer-Brandon Prizes awarded by the College of Arts and Sciences to undergraduate students in recognition of outstanding academic achievement and student leadership qualities.

Richelle Alcántara received the Malcolm A. Kochert Scholarship in 2006, and **Emily Gage** and **Anne Gorman** were awarded Abel Scholarships. The Dorf Scholarship for Overseas Study was granted to **Sarah Classen**, who participated in the Cuernavaca summer program.

The first Ashley Crouse Memorial Scholarship was awarded to **Monica Ozaeta** for study in the summer 2006 Cuernavaca program. This scholarship was created in memory of **Ashley Crouse**, a department major who had great exuberance for the Spanish language and study abroad experiences. Crouse died in a tragic accident in the spring of 2004.

Inductees into Phi Beta Kappa National Honor Society were **Adrienne Bock**, **Daniel Adam Bulla**, **Suzanne Field**, **Sara Foley**, **Sarah Kamel**, **Mzilikaze Kone**, **Laura Rogers**, and **Matthew Trainor**.

The following students completed honors theses in our department this year: **Sienna Teschendoft**, “Spanish Gender Agreement: The Development of Accuracy During L2 Acquisition,” directed by

Professor **Kimberly Geeslin**; **Kathleen Claussen**, “Su propia democracia: Cultura y sociedad civil en América Latina,” with direction from Professor **Alejandro Mejías-López**; **Elissa Stankys**, “A Study of Interlanguage Pragmatics: Requesting Strategies and Modifications of Intermediate L2 Spanish Learners,” with Professor Geeslin as director; and **William Ryder Timberlake**, “La pronunciación con rasgos extranjeros y la hipótesis del período crítico: La competencia fonológica de aprendices avanzados del español,” directed by Professor **Manuel Díaz-Campos**.



Monica Ozaeta received the first Ashley Crouse Memorial Scholarship for study abroad. She is pictured holding the scrapbook Ashley made after her summer 2004 trip to Cuernavaca, Mexico. Ashley's family has kindly donated the scrapbook to the department.

IUAlumniCareers.com

The Indiana University Alumni Association's online career services center, **IUAlumniCareers.com**, provides online career and mentoring services for IU alumni. Register at **IUAlumniCareers.com** to search for jobs posted by employers, post your resume for review by employers, or search for an alumni mentor for career advice. *Only IUAA members may search for jobs and mentors, so activate your membership today!*

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Zack Overley, at the Isla de Pascua, during his year abroad in Chile

Alumni Notebook

1960s

Rebecca K. Sills Steele, BA'63, teaches Spanish at the Albuquerque Technical Vocational Institute in New Mexico. She received her master's degree from the University of New Mexico in 1970. Steele and her husband, David, live in Albuquerque. She writes, "I was in [the] 1961 Peru group."

Wayne G. Christiansen, MAT'68, reports that he retired from full-time teaching in 1998 but continues to substitute on a regular basis. He has accepted long-term substitute assignments for Spanish teachers on maternity or medical leave. Christiansen and his wife, Bernadine (Lundberg), MS'68, live in Virginia, Minn.

1980s

Christopher R. Freeman, BA'80, is a licensed land surveyor in Texas. He works as a project manager overseeing multi-million-dollar surveying and mapping projects, mostly for the Department of Transportation. He is also a part-time instructor at North Lake College, teaching surveying courses. He lives in Garland.

Marian S. Greenfield, MA'80, is president of the American Translators Association, the country's largest professional organization for translators and interpreters. She is the owner of msgreenfield Translations in South Plainfield, N.J. She is a full-time industry consultant and freelancer, translating financial documents from Spanish, Portuguese, and French into English. She is also an adjunct professor of translation at New York University and the University of Chicago.

Todd A. Wilson, BA'82, is director of communications for Sarah Lawrence College in Yonkers, N.Y.

Marta G. Cruz-Concepción, BA'83, MA'87, lives in Los Angeles and teaches in the language program at the University of Southern California. She has recently developed a unit on Puerto Rican identity for her writing course. She writes, "I look forward to meeting some Hoosiers here!"

Louisa A. Nash LaGrotto, BA'83, MAT'90, was named the 2006 Indiana Teacher of the Year, announced by the Indiana superintendent of public instruction Suellen Reed, on Sept. 29, 2005. LaGrotto teaches sixth-grade through eighth-grade Spanish at Westlane Middle School in Indianapolis. As offered with the award, LaGrotto has accepted a sabbatical as teacher-in-residence with the Indiana Department of Education. She will work

with the world language consultant and in the Division of Language Minority and Migrant Programs during the 2006-07 school year. In 2003, LaGrotto was named the Indiana Foreign-Language Teacher of the Year and the I-AATSP Spanish Teacher of the Year for kindergarten through eighth-grade. She lives in Indianapolis.

Anne Hoehner Scialabba, BA'84, of Chicago, is vice president of Arthur J. Gallagher Risk Management Services in Itasca, Ill. Her address is anne_scialabba@ajg.com.

Brett L. Bowen, '89, and Laura J. (Smail), BA'88, MA'95, have been married for almost eight years. Brett works in private banking for Fifth Third Bank. Laura reports, "I stay home with the girls and work part time, teaching English as a second language online." The BOWENS live in Holland, Mich.

1990s

Kelly Ann Anthony, BA'92, is an assistant to a choreographer in Los Angeles and is preparing to attend nursing school.

Gabriel L. Goddard, BA'94, is the chief compliance officer for Cinfin Capital Management, an investment-adviser firm in Cincinnati. He is also an attorney for Cincinnati Insurance Co. His address is gabgoddard@yahoo.com.

Kristine Markovich Alpi, BA'95, Cert/MLS'96, of Bronx, N.Y., is associate library director at the Samuel J. Wood Library at Cornell University's Weill Medical College.

Grady C. Wray, PhD'99, is assistant professor at the University of Oklahoma. He received the 2006 Longmire Prize, which is given by the University of Oklahoma to

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Alumni profile

A dedicated learner and teacher

Mike Eskitch, BS'64, MS'70, MAT'76, MS'77, a man with a passion for learning and service, grew up in poverty on the south side of Indianapolis. He had early exposure to foreign languages because his father spoke Serbian, Hungarian, German, and English, and his mother spoke French and English. His early years were rich in culture.



Mike Eskitch

Eskitch earned a BS in health and safety education and an MS in public health education from Indiana University. He joined the Peace Corps and traveled to Bolivia, where he worked in a public health/community development project to instruct the people of the *barrio* in health education, to replace water pipes, and to build showers and latrines. He also coached the University of Oruro basketball team.

A move to Denver brought him in contact with his future wife, Mercedes, a Spanish teacher. After marrying, they joined the Peace Corps to work in Brazil. Eskitch had learned Spanish in the Peace Corps but taught himself Portuguese prior to his second Peace Corps experience. His wife was an artist, and her drawings of the life cycle of parasites were used to educate students about preventive medicine. They were also members of a team that vaccinated all the villages and towns of the state of Espirito Santo, Brazil.

Following their stay in Brazil, Eskitch and his wife enrolled at IU to pursue graduate degrees. Eskitch earned an MAT in Spanish and Portuguese and an MS in applied linguistics. He reflects on his education at IU, "A university education is like a ticket to adventure." The family (including son Paulo) settled in Kansas for several years, where Eskitch taught ESL, Spanish, and German (a language he studied on his own), in addition to graduate-level ESL and linguistics in the district's bilingual/ESL teacher-certification program. In 1987, Eskitch was accepted as an International Fulbright Exchange Teacher, so the family was off to Oberkirch, Germany, where he taught Spanish and English for a year.

Mercedes, Mike's wife of 31 years, died in 2004, and Eskitch officially retired from teaching. In 2005, he again became a Peace Corps volunteer, teaching linguistics at a university in Eastern Europe, undertaking the study of yet another language (Russian) on his own. While in Europe, he met and married Galina Nicolaevna Grigorieva, and they travel between Russia and Charlotte, N.C., where Eskitch teaches ESL at the elementary level.

Alumni notebook

(continued from page 9)

College of Arts and Sciences faculty, who, in addition to exhibiting exemplary dedication to students and teaching, are also active in the scholarship of teaching and actively share this knowledge with others. He has published *The Devotional Exercises/Los Ejercicios Devotos de Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz, Mexico's Prodigious Nun (1648-1695)*, Mellen Press, 2005, for which he received the Adele Mellen Prize for Distinguished Contribution to Scholarship.

Susan Barker Yeley, BA'99, and Brian D. Yeley, BS'96, JD'99, have moved back to Bloomington, Ind., where he works for the IU Foundation. Their daughter, Anna Grace Yeley, was born on Aug. 24. Susan planned to look for work in interior design in early 2006 and can be reached at sbyeley@yahoo.com.

2000s

Bryan S. Cameron, BA'00, is working on a doctorate in Spanish at the University of Pennsylvania. He can be reached at bryanac@sas.upenn.edu.

Meredith I. Stradtner, Cert/BA'03, works for HLS Pharmacies Inc.'s home medical division. Her e-mail address is meredithstradtner@hotmail.com.

Margaret J. Culivan, BA'04, reports that she accepted a job offer to become the director of Berlitz International Language Center in St. Louis. She works and lives near Clayton, Mo.

Clara E. Julien, BA'04, reported, "On April 20, 2006, I will be sworn in as a Peace Corps volunteer in Tegucigalpa, Honduras. I will be working in Honduras [to combat] HIV/AIDS until 2008. Wish me luck!"

Crystal D. Mahoy, BA'04, is a mental-health technician at Deaconess Cross Pointe in Evansville, Ind. She has been accepted to the master's degree program in forensic psychology at the Chicago School of Professional Psychology.

Jennifer A. Whalen, BAJ'04 (Spanish as an outside area), is a reporter for the *News Chief* newspaper and *Her Voice* magazine in Winter Haven, Fla. She lives in Lakeland.

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