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HISPANews
THE NEWSLETTER OF THE COLLEGE OF CHARLESTON’S DEPARTMENT OF HISPANIC STUDIES
XV ANNIVERSARY
AN ANNUAL PUBLICATION
2001-2016
MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

This spring 2016 issue of *HispaNews* represents an important landmark: the 15th anniversary of its publication. Back in 2001, Founding Editors Drs. Luci Moreira and Sarah Owens, along with the helpful guidance of then-department chair Dr. Andrew Sobiesuo, Editor-in-Chief, produced what would be the inaugural edition of an annual newsletter that has since enjoyed the yearly collaboration of many dedicated faculty. Thanks to the leadership of our current Editor-in-Chief, Professor Daniel Delgado, this latest issue of *HispaNews* commemorates 15 years of reporting the outstanding accomplishments of our students and faculty. And as outlined in the pages ahead, the concluding 2015-16 academic year was no less impressive, as the students and faculty of the Department of Hispanic Studies led and engaged in numerous activities at local, regional, national and international levels. But I will let the subsequent pages of this noble newsletter reveal those many remarkable accomplishments. Finally, my gratitude and congratulations to Daniel Delgado and the entire *HispaNews* editorial team—Maria Andrews, Claudia Moran, Antonio Pérez-Núñez and Laura Moses—for sustaining this fine tradition that undoubtedly will continue another 15 years and beyond.

--Dr. Mark P. Del Mastro is Chair of the Department of Hispanic Studies

HISPANEWS

Spring 2016

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Associate Editors: Prof. Maria Andrews, Prof. Claudia Moran, Dr. Antonio Pérez-Núñez and Laura Moses

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*HispaNews* is an annual publication of the College of Charleston’s Department of Hispanic Studies.

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2016 is a special year for us, since we are celebrating the 15th anniversary of HispaNews, the annual newsletter of the Department of Hispanic Studies. We want to acknowledge the work of our colleagues. We asked Dr. Luci Moreira to talk a little about the first issue back in 2001.

The 15th anniversary of HispaNews coincides with my hiring, along with three other professors, and the beginning of Portuguese at the College of Charleston.

I was coming from the University of California, Berkeley, and had been editor of the Portuguese Newsletter of the AATSP (and still am). Andrew Sobiesuo, as chair of the Department of Hispanic Studies, knew about the Portuguese Newsletter, and immediately asked me to be an editor for HispaNews. Sarah Owens joined me. The first layout of the newsletter was done, its name was created, and it was published in the spring of 2001. I still remember when we asked for suggestions for names. Names were submitted anonymously and put to a vote. HispaNews won, and up to this day we don’t know who suggested the name! Andrew Sobiesuo became the editor-in-chief.

I remember long weekends in my fourth-floor office working on the layout with my son. Using the program PageMaker (bought in California with my own funds), we spent hours figuring out the colors and fonts and the layout, which actually turned out nicely. My son was 14 and I had many dreams in my heart with regards to the College of Charleston. The two of us made the perfect team... and we are still close partners.

At that time, Sarah and I were just starting our careers, but looking back, we acted as seniors here... the newsletter is just an example. From getting the alumni information (at the Office of Alumni) to placing the newsletter in alumni hands, we did everything: collecting addresses, writing a letter to them requesting news, addressing the envelopes, folding the newsletters, adding stamps and labels -- we two did everything. The first HispaNews came out beautifully, and we started a tradition. Faculty were always looking forward to seeing the news, and finding out about former students. At the time, our focus was more on the students, but also on faculty, of course. I remained as editor for a few more years; Sarah went to other committees. Eventually I left HispaNews and continue with the AATSP Portuguese Newsletter only. Other faculty undertook the newsletter.

It is very gratifying to see that HispaNews became a tradition in our department, has served as connection between the past and the present. It is always sweet and profound to see our former students becoming leaders and professionals using Spanish and/or Portuguese! Definitely, the workload division for the newsletter is so different now, with several people involved, that it is probably not as time-consuming as it was in the first years. I salute the new editors: the future will always be in the hands of new generations. I understand and appreciate their work for our alumni.
Congratulations to Dr. Silvia Rodríguez Sabater, Dr. Sarah Owens, and Dr. Luci Moreira for their 15th anniversary at the College of Charleston! We asked them to reflect on these fifteen years and on their major accomplishments.

Dr. Silvia Rodríguez Sabater

I have taught a variety of courses ranging from SPAN 101 to graduate courses in the M.Ed. in Languages and the (no longer existing) M.A. in Interpreting. I have developed several courses, including SPAN 400 Service Learning, SPAN 448 Spanish Sociolinguistics, a special topics course on Pragmatics, and three graduate courses in Applied Linguistics, Second Language Acquisition, and Pragmatics. I have received extensive training in the application of technology to teaching and learning and was the first faculty member in the department to complete the Distance Education training and teach a course online. During this time, I was the Conversation Program Coordinator, the Basic Language Coordinator, the Chair of the Graduate Curriculum Committee, and more recently, the Director of the M.Ed in Languages program. I have published in the field of Applied Linguistics in journals including The Southern Journal of Linguistics, Foreign Language Annals, Academic Exchange Quarterly, Modern Language Journal, and Critical Inquiry in Language Studies. I have been a reviewer for several journals and publishing houses. I have presented my research at national and international conferences. I have also been involved with La Casa Hispana, Sigma Delta Pi, and more recently, the development of the Hispanic Studies Teaching Discussion series (together with Prof. Mary Ann Blitt).

Dr. Sarah Owens

It’s hard to believe that I’ve been a professor at the College of Charleston for almost 16 years. Time has flown since I came to Charleston during the summer of 2000. Since then I have published two books – Journey of Five Capuchin Nuns and Women of the Iberian Atlantic – and I am currently working on my third book, Nuns Navigating the Spanish Empire. That study was supported by a sabbatical from the College of Charleston and a yearlong fellowship from the National Endowment for the Humanities. Looking back on all of these years I have very fond memories of taking two summer study abroad programs to Trujillo, Spain and one semester program to Santiago, Chile. We have a dynamic department that is fostered by a combination of wonderful students and great colleagues. I have truly enjoyed my experience in the Department of Hispanic Studies.

Dr. Luci Moreira

I started in August 2000 and received my tenure and promotion in 2004. Since 2000 I’ve been in charge of the Portuguese program. One of my accomplishments at the College was the publication of the book Ponto de Encontro, as one of the co-authors. The book is being used in more than a hundred universities in the nation, and has become an icon in the teaching of Portuguese in the United States. I am also the Director of the Portuguese School at Middlebury College (Summer Language Schools). It is another rewarding job, with many talented teachers and motivated students. A true inspiration for me. However, my daily life has been centered on my students at the College of Charleston, being their mentor, advisor of the Portuguese Club, and everything related to Portuguese, organizing many extra-curricular activities, and keeping the program going during all these years. I want to acknowledge here Profs. Douglas Friedman, Timothy Coates, and late Walter Fuentes who were visionaries and created together the Portuguese Program at the College of Charleston. I’ll be forever grateful to my beloved students, who bring me the energy and encouragement that we teachers need.
NEW FACULTY INTERVIEWS

Dr. Antonio Pérez-Núñez, Dr. Edward Chauca, and Dr. Carl Wise are the new roster faculty members for the 2015-2016 academic year in the Department of Hispanic Studies. HispaNews met them recently to get to know them better.

The College of Charleston

A SUPERIOR PUBLIC UNIVERSITY WITH PERSONALITY TO SPARE

The College of Charleston is a nationally recognized, public liberal arts and sciences university located in the heart of historic Charleston, South Carolina. Founded in 1770, the College is among the nation’s top universities for quality education, student life and affordability. The College offers a distinctive combination of a beautiful and historic campus, modern facilities and cutting-edge programs.
Dr. Edward Chauca joined the Department of Hispanic Studies at the College of Charleston in August of 2015. He received his PhD in Hispanic Literature from University of California, Los Angeles in December of 2012, specializing in Andean literature and culture.

HispaNews: Can you tell us about your background and how you became interested in literature?

Dr. Chauca: During my high school years in Peru, I wanted to be a physicist, in particular an astrophysicist, to study relativity and gravity. When I entered college in 1996, driven by the need to “study something useful and practical,” I opted for systems engineering, maybe the worst mistake of my life [laughs]. Two years later I was tired of numbers and stats, and I encountered myself randomly taking an elective class on literature. There I read a book that changed my career path and my life: Conversación en la Catedral by Mario Vargas Llosa. In high school I had read some novels and short stories, but none of them had such a big impact on me. Conversación en la Catedral was not just entertaining; between its lines I could sense the historical, sociological, and political problems that my country has been facing. That book opened my eyes to a whole new research field that I was unaware of. I felt that literature was crucial to understand cultural structures that were affecting the lives of thousands of people. The next semester I changed to a major in Hispanic literature and linguistics, which eventually led me here.

HispaNews: How did you come to work at the College of Charleston?

Dr. Chauca: I was looking for better opportunities for my family and my career. We knew we wanted to move to a city (we were living in a college town) and also move south if possible. I was lucky that there was an open tenure-track position in my research area here, and even luckier that I got the interview and eventually the job. When I visited the campus, I was enthralled by the
Dr. Chauca, cont.

thriving department, the enthusiastic students, and the opportunities at the college. All the colleagues I met those days were very generous and made me feel like part of a community. After that visit, I knew College of Charleston was a perfect place to continue developing my teaching and research.

HispaNews: What are the aspects of your work that you most enjoy?

Dr. Chauca: I enjoy the human contact of teaching as well as the compulsive loneliness of research. It is a great combination. It should be illegal to do one without the other.

HispaNews: How has your experience been so far, and what has been your biggest challenge?

Dr. Chauca: My experience in College of Charleston has been fantastic. Everyone in the department is very social and kind. Last semester I had a spectacular group of students in my course on indigenism, and this semester I have had two fantastic classes of conversation in which students did all the hard work and my role was more of a facilitator. So far my biggest challenge is to not work on weekends.

HispaNews: What are your research interests?

Dr. Chauca: I have two main areas of research: on one hand, the connections between fiction and mental health sciences in Peru; and on the other hand, the influence of human rights and neoliberalism in Latin American culture. I am very interested in how different communities and countries have carried out their process of healing and mourning after the years of dirty wars and massive migration in the region.

HispaNews: Finally, and since this is already a tradition in our newsletter, could you share something with us that readers might not know about you?

Dr. Chauca: I can share three things. First, I am the father of an adorable one-year-old baby. Second, I am against speed-reading techniques. A book is something that a person has to read and enjoy at the rhythm of the narrator or poetic voice. And third, I waste most of my free time grumbling about politics on Facebook. I used to follow sports on TV as a distraction, but social media has changed my priorities.

HispaNews: Thank you, and best of luck!
Dr. Antonio Pérez-Núñez is from Granada, Spain. He earned his Ph.D. in Spanish Linguistics with a concentration in Second Language Acquisition Teacher Education from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. His is currently investigating second language acquisition through writing and the effects of written corrective feedback.

HispaNews: Can you tell us about your background and how you became interested in languages?

Dr. Pérez-Núñez: I grew up in a small town near Granada, Spain, surrounded by olive trees, horses, and the Sierra Nevada mountains. I was always interested in languages and cultures since I was a little kid. I remember when I was 6 or 7, I used to spend hours and hours reading an old atlas book that we had at home learning about different countries all over the world and dreaming about visiting those places. However, it wasn’t until middle school that I first began to learn a foreign language, which was English. Later on, I had the opportunity to also study French in high school, and then German, Italian and Galician, which is a language related to Portuguese, spoken in northwestern Spain (Galicia), in college. For me, learning languages was always a very enjoyable experience, which I guess explains why my field of research is second language acquisition in the classroom.

HispaNews: It sounds like a wonderful childhood! What interested you in the College of Charleston?

Dr. Pérez-Núñez: I have to admit that I didn’t know much about Charleston or the College until I came here for the first time, mainly because the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, which is where I was working on my Ph.D. in Hispanic Linguistics, was very far from here. However, when I first came to Charleston and visited the College I was really impressed. This city has a European air with beautiful architecture, cobblestone streets, and the possibility of walking or...
biking everywhere. After my first impression, I was also excited by all the things the Department of Hispanic Studies and the College offer to the students, such as the Language Lab at Addlestone Library, the Casa Hispana, a house where students become fluent in Spanish living on campus, Tertulia (the Spanish happy hour), and the variety of study abroad programs in places like Spain, Argentina or Chile. None of those options are available to students at bigger colleges like University of Illinois, making the College a unique place that emphasizes the study of languages and cultures.

_HispaNews:_ How has your experience been so far?

Dr. Pérez-Núñez: Excellent. It’s obviously difficult to move to a new place but the people in Charleston and my colleagues in the Department have been very nice and helpful. I think it’s possible that having gone to so many Cougars basketball games helped a lot with the process of adaptation. I now have the College spirit!

_HispaNews:_ What is your favorite part of teaching and being with undergrads?

Dr. Pérez-Núñez: One of my favorite things about working with undergrads is to see their energy and excitement. The time you are in college is a very special period in your life. You get to meet a lot of different people, learn about yourself and the world and have a bunch of experiences that will be with you as you grow up. It’s amazing that I can be part of that by sharing with them my passion for languages and Hispanic cultures in the classroom.

_HispaNews:_ What are the biggest challenges?

Dr. Pérez-Núñez: One of them is explaining the subjunctive and the other is teaching the differences between the preterite and imperfect. Well, that would be in terms of grammar… [laughs]. As a teacher, one of the most challenging and also important things is to be able to engage students in the classroom, and in order to do that you need to create a supportive learning environment where they feel challenged, comfortable and willing to participate. And that, of course, is not an easy task.

_HispaNews:_ What has been your greatest professional achievement?

Dr. Pérez-Núñez: Considering all the many years I’ve been working to become a Professor, my greatest professional achievement is to be part of the Department of Hispanic Studies here at the College of Charleston.

_HispaNews:_ What are your research interests?

Dr. Pérez-Núñez: My current research interests focus on the instrumental role that writing can play in the acquisition of Spanish in formal classroom settings. I am now examining the impact of written grammar correction at different levels, including its effect on the development of accuracy, fluency and complexity, and the extent to which it may also impact students’ motivation and anxiety.

_HispaNews:_ What projects do you have in mind for the future?

Dr. Pérez-Núñez: As I mentioned earlier, one of the things that I like most about the Department of Hispanic Studies is its strong study abroad programs. In the future, I’d like to get involved in the programs and maybe direct and/or teach in one of them during the summer. In terms of research, one topic that really interests me has to do with the development of intercultural competence. Typically, in second language acquisition we look at changes in learners’ communicative competence. However, now that we are in a globalized world with a diversity of peoples, communities and cultures, I want to examine the extent to which different learning settings, such as the foreign language classroom, online interaction with native speakers, or the study abroad experience, may help develop the knowledge, skills and attitude that are needed to interact successfully with people from different cultures and backgrounds, which is, in the end,
My first experience was when I was 17 during a summer English language camp in Ireland. In college, I had the opportunity to study abroad in England and Germany, as an undergrad, and later in the United States as a graduate student. I also try to stay very active – I play soccer, tennis, and kayak on Shem Creek while chasing dolphins. Charleston is a great place and I’m very lucky to be here!

_HispaNews: Thank you, and best of luck!_
probably more interested in English and American literature, especially the southern writers like Welty, O’Connor, and of course, Faulkner. I also loved studying Hemingway. I became more interested in Spanish after I spent a winter term in Chile with my college. We lived in Angol, a very small town, and worked with a Chilean group to refurbish a local agrarian school. There was no English other than with a few other students in my group, so I had to use Spanish the whole time and found that I really loved being immersed in the Chilean culture. I also had very good Spanish professors so I kept taking their classes and before I knew it, I was a Spanish major. After college I lived in Spain for a year and received my MA and PhD from the University of Georgia. Now I spend most of my time researching and working with Spanish literature, but I still read Hemingway!

HispaNews: What are your research interests?

Dr. Wise: I work primarily on the cultural production of the Spanish Empire, and especially Spanish theater, a type of mass entertainment that was popular in the 1600s. We have all read Shakespeare, of course, but not too many people realize that Spain took theater to an entirely different level. Lope de Vega, for instance, wrote over 500 plays and they were all best-sellers! Specifically, I investigate how the Jesuit-trained priest Mira de Amescua used theater to engage a very controversial definition of free will proposed by Spanish philosophers in the seventeenth century. In the 1580s through the early seventeenth century, free will was an extremely touchy subject, and debates involving theology professors frequently spiraled out of control and resorted to screaming matches, accusations of heresy, and turning people in to the Inquisition. In fact, it got so bad that the Vatican banned all discussion of free will in 1611. After the debates on free will were outlawed, Mira begin producing plays on this very subject. I contend that it was Mira’s fascination with theological debate that inspired him and his protégé Calderón de la Barca’s unique philosophical style of writing.

HispaNews: What do you enjoy the most, and what is your favorite class to teach?

Dr. Wise: That is a hard question to answer. I probably most enjoy researching in the archives in Spain. Archives will usually give scholars who are experts on the older periods special access to their collections so I get to read 500-year-old books, letters, and documents that occasionally contain surprises. Sometimes I will be reading court documents and I will find one written in cipher, or a secret code, so its contents would not fall into the wrong hands.

As for teaching, I like different classes for different reasons. In the basic language levels, it is very exciting to introduce students to the incredible richness of the Spanish language and Hispanic cultures. I also love seeing beginning students develop their Spanish skills over time. In the upper levels, I would say that sharing my own research with students is one of my favorite things. As an archival researcher, I have a lot of very interesting material about Spanish history and literature and it is always fun to use that in class. Sometimes I assign reading material that has no modern transcription, so my students read documents in the original seventeenth-century block-type!

HispaNews: What projects do you have in mind for the future?

Dr. Wise: As my research looks at the Spanish Empire as a whole, I am currently planning a project to research how Spaniards read and interpreted Atlantic narratives like ship logs, shipwreck tales, naval disasters, and accounts of pirates. When we think about the Spanish Empire we generally think about the land (Spain and the Americas), but the space in between contains a tremendous amount of history as well, and the early modern Spaniards were very aware of that.

HispaNews: How interesting. Can you tell us some examples?

Dr. Wise: For instance, Lope de Vega has one of his plays take place on Christopher Columbus’s ship and he also wrote an epic poem about the English privateer
Francis Drake, who, from the Spanish point of view, was a notorious pirate. The Atlantic Ocean was a major factor in how Spain saw itself and its empire, and the sailors who navigated it provided an endless supply of wild tales of danger and adventure to Spanish readers back at home.

HispaNews: Finally, and since this is already a tradition in our newsletter, could you share something with us that readers might not know about you?

Dr. Wise: I do not consider myself an adventurer or extreme hiker, but I have done some dramatic treks. In college I hiked the Torres del Paine in the Tierra del Fuego region near the southern tip of Chile. I also hiked the Inca Trail in the Peruvian Andes into Machu Picchu and I even climbed the Huayna Picchu, which is famous for its vertical drops!

HispaNews: It sounds very adventurous! Thank you for your time.
Prof. Daniel Jones is a College of Charleston Alumni who has been working as an Adjunct Professor of Spanish since 2012. HispaNews wanted to know more about him.

HispaNews: Can you tell us about your background and how you became interested in learning and teaching Spanish?

Prof. Jones: I started as a College of Charleston student fulfilling my language requirement. In Span 201 I realized that I had a talent and interest for the language, so I talked to my professor and she encouraged me to major in Spanish. I declared the major that same day. I graduated from College of Charleston as a Spanish major and then completed my master's degree at Middlebury College in Vermont.

HispaNews: How long have you been working at the College of Charleston? Can you tell our readers about your work here?

Prof. Jones: I have been working here since 2012, when I returned to Charleston from Spain. In my four years at the College, I have taught every basic and intermediate level course that is part of our Basic Language Program. I have also been involved in the Hispanic Studies department in many other ways, including serving on the 202 Textbook Adoption Committee, the Basic Spanish Language Program Steering Committee, mentoring new faculty members, and helping Dr. Sarah Owens with a transcription project that she will use for a book she is writing.

HispaNews: What are your favorite parts of teaching Spanish here at CofC?

Prof. Jones: My favorite part of teaching at CofC has, without a doubt, been getting to know my students over various semesters and seeing them grow. I have several students that completed their entire language requirement in my classes, (shoutout to the Three
Semester Club!) and to see their improvement by the time they finish 202 is really special. You notice growth more clearly when you have more than a semester with a student. I have truly enjoyed getting to know so many of my students and advising them on life, travel, school, work, and anything else they want to talk about. I remember how important for me it was to have professors I could confide in, and I try to offer the same to my students.

**HispaNews**: What are in your opinion the main traits that a successful Spanish teacher needs to have?

**Prof. Jones**: There are so many traits needed to make a great teacher of any subject, such as passion, organization, energy, enthusiasm, and patience, but particularly for Spanish, I think creativity is especially important. We do a lot of acting things out and use a lot of creative ways to explain ourselves as Spanish teachers. We also need to make sure our lessons are creative and engaging, so the students will want to complete the activities and use the language.

**HispaNews**: Could you share with us a rewarding experience with your students in class?

**Prof. Jones**: I try to have some sort of rewarding experience every day. This semester there have been many highlights, some regarding student work and effort, others where I was very satisfied with how a lesson turned out, but my favorite has been a few of my 202 students this semester feeling confident and comfortable enough to attempt to tell jokes in Spanish. On Fridays I usually start class with something funny for "Fun Friday" or "Viernes Divertido." Sometimes it's just a short meme or video I've found, but it's great to see my students replicate that humor.

**HispaNews**: Have you studied abroad? How was your experience of studying abroad?

**Prof. Jones**: I have studied abroad and push study abroad really hard in my classes! Study abroad was life-changing for me and I know so many other people who feel the same way. I completed the CofC spring semester in Trujillo, Spain, many years ago, which was my first taste of living abroad, and then I completed the majority of my graduate coursework abroad, in Madrid, Spain and Guadalajara, Mexico. No textbook or classroom, no matter how great, can recreate the learning experience of studying abroad and having all of your senses constantly stimulated by something new.

**HispaNews**: What would you say to a student of CofC who is interested in studying abroad?

**Prof. Jones**: I have successfully encouraged many students to study abroad and am very proud of that. I love when they come back from their time abroad and share their stories with me. CofC has many great programs for study abroad all over the world. I would encourage a student that might be interested to talk to a professor they are comfortable with or their advisor, to attend a study-abroad related event, and to do some research on programs and the location they are interested in. It is always helpful to talk to someone who has done something similar, which is why I think I've been successful in getting some of my students to study abroad.

**HispaNews**: Is there anything else you’d like to share with our readers?

**Prof. Jones**: I just would like to reiterate how lucky we are to have such a great Hispanic Studies department here at the College. We have inspiring faculty from a variety of countries, students that are passionate about learning the language, and so many events constantly being held on campus and in the community that allow us to get to know each other. I hope the *HispaNews* readers will take advantage of the events put on by the department and that I will see them there. I'm a Tertulia regular and we can always count on that for a good time. I love our school and city and feel proud to be a Cougar alumnus and Charlestonian.

**HispaNews**: Thank you, and all the best!
PROF. CLARISSA CARR

Professor Clarissa Carr is originally from northern Indiana and completed her BA in Spanish and Film Studies at Butler University. After college, she relocated to Charleston, and then later to Charlotte to complete her Masters at UNCC while teaching high school Spanish and ESL. Back in Charleston since 2014, she now lives in Mt. Pleasant where she continues to teach ESL outside of her work at CofC. Clarissa enjoys the beach, playing with her dog, and indulging in films by her favorite Spanish director, Pedro Almodóvar.

PROF. LAUREN HETROVICZ

Professor Lauren Hetrovicz holds an M.A. in Spanish Linguistics (2011) and an M.A. in the Teaching of English as a Second Language (2014), both from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Her research interests while completing her Ph.D. coursework were sociolinguistics and second language acquisition. Lauren is very pleased to be teaching at the College of Charleston. When not in the classroom, she can be found at the park with her dog, Diego, at the James Island climbing wall, or on Shem Creek kayaking with her husband, Antonio.

DR. VICTORIA GARRETT

Dr. Victoria Garrett earned an M.A. from UNC-Chapel Hill and a Ph.D. from UCLA, both focused on Latin American literature and culture. She has studied popular culture in Buenos Aires, Argentina, worked with study abroad programs in Spain and Mexico, and explored the Andean world in Peru. She has published articles on early 20th-century Argentine literature and popular theater, as well as on violence and disability in contemporary Latin American cinema. She is co-author of *The Improbable Conquest: Letters from the Río de la Plata, 1537-1556*. In her free time she enjoys yoga, the outdoors, and watching her toddler grow.

DR. MARTHA MAUS

Dr. Martha Maus is from Boise, Idaho. She graduated with a BA in Spanish from the University of Portland in 2002, an MA at Villanova University 2004, and a PhD at the University of Maryland, College Park in 2012. She studies transatlantic literature of the 16th century with an emphasis on the use of medical notions in narrative to legitimate conquest. Her husband, Phillip, and she moved to Charleston in the summer of 2015 from WV, and they couldn’t be happier. Outside of work, Martha loves old maps, traveling, her doggies, reading, Star Wars, her family, her trike, and sunshine.
Professors Lola Colomina and Nadia Avendaño co-directed the Trujillo Summer Abroad Program from May 18 to June 21, 2015. Twenty-three students participated in the program and lived with a host family in order to get a full immersion into the Spanish culture and language. The courses offered were Span 275, Span 320, Span 328 and Span 390, with each student enrolled in two classes. Classes were held in a beautiful 15th-century convent called La Coria. Throughout the five-week stay, students participated in a one-day excursion to the Roman city of Mérida, a five-day trip to the southern Moorish cities of Córdoba, Granada, and Sevilla, and a final trip to Madrid, Toledo, and Segovia. On their own, students traveled to Lisbon, Portugal, for a weekend, some went to Morocco or Barcelona, and some traveled as far as London or Rome. All the staff members of Fundación Xavier de Salas in charge of all logistics -- including accommodation with host families and orientation while in Trujillo, helping both the students and the directors with technology and other logistical issues, as well as arranging some of the group excursions -- did an impeccable job. We would like to give a shout-out to Marta Jiménez, the on-site coordinator at the time, who made sure the program ran smoothly. The promptness and effectiveness with which Marta handled every task undoubtedly made this a very successful program. Students had an amazing cultural experience that also allowed them to improve their Spanish.
Will Davis has just graduated. He has lived in the Spanish House, was a Peer Teacher for the conversation classes, and an active member of the Spanish Club.

HispaNews: Hola Will, thank you for being here today. It is a pleasure to talk to you. Could you tell our readers a little about you? Where you are from, why you chose the College of Charleston, and why you decided to major in Spanish.

Davis: I’m from Lexington, South Carolina, about thirty minutes west of Columbia. I chose the College of Charleston because I was looking for a school with a strong Linguistics program. I have to credit one of my high school Spanish teachers for pushing me in the direction I went here. She taught the language from a linguistic perspective, which intrigued me so much that I started looking into the discipline on my own and decided that it would be the area that I would study in college.

HispaNews: Why did you decide to join the Spanish House, and how long have you lived there?

Davis: I’ve lived in the House for a year, now. I love living on campus, but I also enjoy the more laid-back style of living in a house as opposed to hectic dorm life (much fewer midnight fire alarms). I spent my sophomore year in the French House, which is right next door, so I already knew that it’s in a great location, being right behind the library. Also, the Casa is a great way to practice my Spanish.

HispaNews: Could you describe a typical day at the Spanish House?

Davis: When I wake up, there’s bound to be one, maybe two people scrambling to make some breakfast before running to class. We all say “buenos días” to each other as I head out the door myself. When anyone walks in the house, they call out “¡hola!” to anyone who might be inside. People are in and out all day, but in the evening we have more time to hang out. There are a
few of us in the house that cook, so the kitchen is the main hub where everyone gathers to talk about how the day went. Todo en español, por supuesto.

**HispaNews:** Were there any memorable moments that you can remember while living there?

**Davis:** During the Great South Carolina Deluge last October, we were “stranded” in the house all week, and so we and a large group of friends marathoned horror movies. I felt like I was at home with my family.

**HispaNews:** Tell us what it’s like to live in a Spanish immersion environment while living in Charleston.

**Davis:** Being surrounded by Spanish every day outside of the classroom has made me feel more connected to the language and the cultures that go with it. Every speaker has their strengths and weaknesses, but the Casa’s environment encourages us not only to speak but also to help each other out when we need it.

**HispaNews:** What will you miss the most about the Casa?

**Davis:** I’ll for sure miss my roommates, they’re all great people to live with and so much fun, too. Also, being footsteps away from the library isn’t too bad either.

**HispaNews:** One of your minors was Linguistics, what do you most enjoy about that?

**Davis:** Linguistics brings a logical approach to language, something that most people think makes no sense. Everything has a reason, and if it doesn’t, there’s a reason it doesn’t have a reason. It’s found in nearly every aspect of life; any area that uses language can be studied through the lens of linguistics. I like to tell people it’s like the “red pill” from *The Matrix*; if you take even a basic linguistics class, the way you look at the entire world changes.

**HispaNews:** You were a member of the Spanish Club, the Chinese Club and the French Club. Do you also speak French and Chinese?

**Davis:** Oui, je parle un peu. L’espagnol y le français sont très similaires, mais 我的中文不好 [my Chinese is not good]. I love languages, and at the College, I’ve taken first-level Portuguese, Chinese, Russian and Irish Gaelic. I don’t claim to speak any of those as well as Spanish, but it’s fun to learn the basics and study them from a linguist’s point of view. A line or two in any foreign language is great to break the ice at parties as well.

**HispaNews:** Did you participate in this year’s LCWA World Cultures Fair? How was that?

**Davis:** I did! I helped staff the Linguistics Program’s table, where we handed out surveys to people to guess their dialect and had them guess the meaning of “garden sentences,” like “The old man the boat.” It was a lot of fun being surrounded by bits and pieces from cultures around the world, and the capoeira performance was excellent.

**HispaNews:** You have been a Spanish Tutor at the College of Charleston Center for Student Learning. What was that experience like for you?

**Davis:** Being a Spanish tutor is certainly one of the
-Davis, cont.

highlights of my time here. I’ve learned so much from working in a tutoring lab, where anyone can walk in and receive help without having to make an appointment. The job has honed my people skills and showed me how to accommodate my services to fit each individual’s needs. Also, having to constantly show students the ins and outs of Spanish grammar has helped me with my own classes. I owe a great deal to each and every person who visited me in the lab over the last three years. Many, many thanks if you happen to be reading this.

_HispaNews:_ You were also a Spanish Peer Teacher for the Conversation classes. What was that experience like for you?

_Davis:_ I highly enjoyed it. Before I applied, I sat in on another teacher’s class to see how it flowed. Still though, the first day I was a little nervous, but each week I gained a little more confidence and started to really have fun with my students.

_HispaNews:_ What would you say to a student at CofC who is interested in becoming a Peer Teacher?

_Davis:_ One of the best ways to learn something is to teach it to someone else. For some, teaching a class in Spanish, let alone their native language, can seem daunting, but I would recommend they take the leap of faith and try it if they have a love for Spanish and a desire to lead and help out other students. It looks great on a résumé, too.

_HispaNews:_ You are graduating in May, 2016. What are your plans for the future?

_Davis:_ I’m planning on taking some time off from school and will send my résumé out to a few places to see if I get any bites. I’d love to have a government job as a linguist or analyst, and if that doesn’t work out, I plan on going for a Masters in Spanish or Linguistics, or teaching English abroad. If I’ve learned one thing in college, it’s to keep all options on the table and to be open to any opportunities that come your way. Looking back to freshman year, I never would have guessed that I’d be where I am today. I imagine that in four years, I’ll look back at this time and think the same thing.

_HispaNews:_ Congratulations, that is wonderful. Thank you, Will! We wish you the best, and please keep in touch! ou?
Katherine Roach is a Spanish Major and the R.A. of the Spanish House. She tells us about her trip to Colombia where she found her roots.

As I was born in Colombia, and adopted by an American family, I grew up with a lot of different opinions of Colombia. My family here in the States mentioned how the Colombians they met in my orphanage were the nicest people they had ever met and how much they loved it, but they also used other words to describe it. Words such as “drugs,” “dangerous,” and “kidnapping” were only some of the sad ones I heard about my birth country growing up. However, from my Colombian friends and nanny who taught me Spanish as a child, I always heard words such as “beautiful,” “welcoming,” and “united.” I always believed in the lovely words that they used to describe the country and could not wait to visit somewhere that I knew so well and so strongly identified with, but did not truly know. I was ecstatic to go to Medellín when one of my fellow Spanish majors told me about it to study such an interesting concept as sociolinguistics with Dr. Weyers.

Upon arriving in Medellín, I immediately noticed how kind the people were. There was no lack of a sense of security, or guns flying all over, like a lot of media in the U.S. depicts. The very first thing we saw was a beautiful view of Medellín lit up at night. I think this was the moment that I knew that this would be an unforgettable and amazing trip. The pride the people had there was impressive in how proud they were to be from Medellín.

Our group made good friends with our main bus driver, Freddie, who took us anywhere and everywhere we were scheduled to go. Dr. Weyers definitely had everything well organized for us. We went everywhere from botanical gardens and art museums to giant rocks with 740 steps with an unexplainable view of the rural areas just outside of Medellín. We even visited neighborhoods that no one would have set foot in twenty years ago. We were not taking academic classes but were learning in a completely different way about the history, art, politics, and of course, the language by visiting and getting to know Medellín in any way that we could. We even went to one of the universities...
where we all shared a little bit about each culture in an academic setting and also made many friendships in the process. There were people from a many different parts of Colombia, which made the conversations that much more interesting.

-Noach, cont.-

No one would have ever thought that the College would have a study abroad opportunity in what used to be one of the most dangerous cities in the world; however, now Colombia is changing. What we saw and experienced was the rebirth and growth of a country plagued by a tragic history. I loved every second of this trip and the people we met and cannot wait to go back.
In Spring 2016, Dr. Weyers offered a special topics linguistics course called *El español de Colombia* (SPAN 491). It was a first-time offering, and an innovative course in several respects. First, this was the first time the Department offered an in-depth analysis of one country’s linguistic profile. Second, it marked the first time an upper level course included an embedded study abroad component during Spring Break. Finally, the course was hybrid. The first part of the course was taught face-to-face in a traditional classroom setting; the second part of the course was taught online.

During Spring Break, the 12 students and Dr. Weyers traveled to Medellín, Colombia, where they were introduced to the World’s Most Innovative City (2013, *Wall Street Journal*). Medellín’s transformation in the past decades is dramatic and the city impresses the visitor. The class explored the city and the surrounding countryside: they climbed a huge stone monolith (Peñón de Guatapé), picnicked high up in the Andes, enjoyed the art of native son Fernando Botero, and met with students and faculty at the Universidad Pontificia Bolivariana for a lecture, to give a talk, and to socialize. It wasn’t all tourism, however! The students had fieldwork to conduct, documenting and collecting linguistic samples that would later serve as data for their research papers.

The experience abroad was enormously gratifying. The students left Colombia with a profound admiration for the people of Medellín and their city.

The hybrid aspect of the course allowed Dr. Weyers to remain in Colombia for the second part of the semester. In that format, SPAN 491 continued online, and Dr. Weyers was afforded the opportunity to conduct fieldwork for his upcoming study on linguistic attitudes toward written voseo in Medellín’s linguistic landscape.

Medellín is impressive. It’s Dr. Weyers’ hope that more Americans will travel there to witness the transformation of a wonderful city.
The Hispanic Latino Graduation Ceremony celebrated the academic achievements and accomplishments of the 2016 Graduating Hispanic and Latino Students at the College of Charleston. This event was sponsored by the Office of Multicultural Students Programs and Services, & the Department of Hispanic Studies.
The Global Scholars program at the College of Charleston is a university-wide initiative designed to increase the capacity of students, faculty, and staff to contribute productively as global citizens. The program aims to meet the changing demands brought about by globalization and recognize students and faculty members who structure their learning and work around developing a wider global world view.

Global Scholars Students were awarded a medal and official certificate. Congratulations to all.

Global Scholars Students and Professors

Dr. Joe Weyers

Will Davis being recognized as a Global Scholar Student
The School of Languages Cultures and World Affairs of the College of Charleston recognized and awarded its most successful students. These were the students awarded from the Department of Hispanic Studies:

Most Accomplished Major: Olivia Ghiz

Outstanding Spanish Major: Mallory McGoff

Departmental Honors: Nora Rich

Distinguished Spanish Majors: Aaron Blotnick, Connor Ellison, Healani Enos, Olivia Ghiz, Mallory McGoff, Nora Rich, Gabriella Santa Lucia, Gabriella, Will Davis

Portuguese Award: Martha Mack

Graeser Candidate: Olivia Ghiz
El título: Una Historia Entre Dos Aventureros

Cuando era niña,
Tomé algunos días sin pensamiento;
No pensaba en el futuro o en el pasado;
Pronto conocí a un aventurero. Él me dijo,
"¿Te agradaría navegar conmigo esta noche?"

Luego, mientras navegábamos en el mar,
El me cantó una cosa importante:
"Cada día es una aventura;"
"Una oportunidad estar feliz y descubrir nuevas cosas."
"Cada día es más precioso que el oro;"
"Porque la vida está corta y es necesario"
"Que los momentos estén llenos,"
"Con recuerdos hechos cada día."
"Es como una canción bonita,"
"Las orejas de las personas están escuchándola."
"Que el álbum de tu vida tenga recuerdos hermosos."

"Y que estés cantando en cada recuerdo."
"Tu vida es tan importante como la vida de cualquier persona."
"Recuerda cantar con frecuencia, con alegría."
"Canta, amiga;"
"Cante conmigo."
Me encantan sus palabras.
Dr. Nadia Avendaño published her article titled “Negotiating Identities: Growing Up Female, Jewish, and Mexican” in the Spring 2016 issue of Bulletin of Spanish Studies. She also presented a paper titled “Pilgrimage and Its Therapeutic Capabilities in Let Their Spirits Dance (2003) by Stella Pope Duarte” at the 56th Mountain Interstate Foreign Language Conference (MIFLC) at the College of Charleston in October 2015. Finally, she co-directed the Summer Study Abroad Program in Trujillo, Spain.

Dr. Emily S. Beck continues work on her book manuscript Political Machinations in the Age of Queen Isabel and gave two conference presentations this year: “Reconstructing the Queen: Imagining Isabel la Católica in the RTVE series Isabel,” on October 16, 2015 at the Mountain Interstate Foreign Language Conference (MIFLC) in Charleston, and “A New Isabel for the Twenty-First Century,” at the International Congress on Medieval Studies in Kalamazoo, MI on May 13, 2016. The latter was part of a panel titled “Premodern Rulers and Postmodern Viewers: Gender and Sex in Medieval Film and Television.”
FOCUS ON THE FACULTY

DR. EDWARD CHAUCA

Dr. Edward Chauca’s article “Comunidades imaginadas imposibles: Derechos humanos y neoliberalismo en el cine y la literatura latinoamericana” was published in *Alter/nativas* (December 2015). His article “Haunting Capitalism: Biutiful, the Specter, and Fantasies of the Global Market,” coauthored with Dr. Victoria Garrett, was published in the edited volume *Espectros: Ghostly Hauntings in Contemporary Transhispanic Narratives* (January 2016). He also presented papers in two conferences: “Body-less Communities in Mexican/American Art,” at the Association for the Study of the Arts of the Present ASAP/7: Arts & the Public in Greenville, SC (September 24-27, 2015), and “Fanatismo político y financiero en tiempos de guerra: *Poeta Ciego* de Mario Bellatin y *Un ejército de locos* de José B. Adolph,” at the Mountain Interstate Foreign Language Conference in Charleston, SC (October 15-17, 2015).

DR. SUSAN DIVINE

Dr. Susan Divine presented at two conferences this year. In October at the MIFLC conference hosted by the College of Charleston, she presented her paper "Editing the City: Participatory Culture in Madrid" and also participated in a roundtable on the digital humanities. In April Dr. Divine traveled to Lexington, Kentucky to present her new research project on “Spanish Space and Time in *El ministerio del tiempo*” as well as again forming part of a roundtable discussion on the digital humanities. Dr. Divine also was busy reading articles for the department's journal, *Hispanic Studies Review*, as well as with her editing work with *Letras hispanas*.

DR. VICKY GARRETT

Dr. Victoria Garrett’s article “Violence, Injury, and Disability in Recent Latin American Film” was published in the edited volume *Libre acceso: Latin American Literature and Film Through Disability Studies*. Her paper “Haunting Capitalism: Biutiful, the Specter, and Fantasies of the Global Market,” co-authored with Dr. Edward Chauca, appeared in *Espectros: Ghostly Hauntings in Contemporary Transhispanic Narratives*. She is continuing her research on representations of violence and the body in contemporary Latin American cinema with an essay on disability in the cinema of Alejandro González Iñárritu.
FOCUS ON THE FACULTY

DR. CARMEN GRACE

Dr. Carmen Grace’s article entitled “Prototipos simbólicos cristianos: retórica y performance en los sermones de la España contrarreformista” was published in Hispanófila. Another article entitled “Sobre la predicación culta en el Siglo de Oro: polémicas y retóricas cristianas” was accepted by Bulletin of Hispanic Studies. She has submitted another article, “El púlpito barroco: devoción espectacular,” to the proceedings of the International Conference XXXV Congreso Internacional de ALDEEU, where she delivered a paper in July 2015 in Segovia, Spain.

DR. ELIZABETH MARTÍNEZ-GIBSON

Dr. Martínez-Gibson’s article “Language contact: A study of the Spanish in two Spanish-language presses in Charleston, South Carolina” in Journal of Language Contact, 9 (2), 331-368 will be published in fall 2016. In addition, she gave two presentations: “A study of language contact and mixing in Spanish-language newspapers in South Carolina” in Dr. Hilary Barnes’s SPAN 491: Spanish in the United States class and “A study of language contact and mixing in Spanish-language newspaper advertisements in South Carolina” at The 65th Mountain Interstate Foreign Language Conference at the College of Charleston, on October 15, 2015. In April 2016, Dr. Martínez-Gibson participated in the 40-hour Bridging the Gap training held locally at the Medical University of South Carolina.

Dr. Martínez-Gibson once again resumed directorship of the Linguistics Studies Minor Program this year. The program was very active this year with invited speaker Dr. Walt Wolfram, the return of the Faculty Lecture Series, and the World Cultures Fair.

DR. SILVIA RODRÍGUEZ SABATER

Dr. Silvia Rodríguez Sabater attended and presented at the Southern Conference on Language Teaching and the 9th Conference on Language Teacher Education at the University of Minnesota. During this time, she had two articles published: “Beyond Mexico and Spain: cultural diversity in Spanish college textbooks” in The Southern Journal of Linguistics and “Cultural activities in Spanish college textbooks” in a special issue on language of the Academic Exchange Quarterly. She also participated in webinars on language assessment and technology applied to language teaching. In July 2015, she became the Director of the M.Ed. in Languages Program, where she also teaches courses in Applied Linguistics and Second Language Acquisition. She developed a new special topics course in Pragmatics and Language Learning, and participated for the first time in a First Year Experience course on the geography and cultures of Spain. In addition to many service activities, she was a journal reviewer for Critical Inquiry in Language Studies.
**FOCUS ON THE FACULTY**

**DR. RICARD VIÑAS DE PUIG**

Dr. Ricard Viñas-de-Puig, in co-authorship with Mayangna Yulbarangyang Balna (a team of indigenous linguists from Nicaragua), published the article “Infixation in Mayangna relational nouns: A subcategorization analysis” in the *Southern Journal of Linguistics*.

Dr. Viñas-de-Puig has started a new research endeavor on the expression of optional negative markers in Spanish and Catalan, analyzed from both a sociolinguistic and theoretical perspective. This research project was partially funded by a School of Languages and World Affairs grant and a “starter grant” from the College of Charleston. The first results were presented at the *Spanish Linguistics in North Carolina (SLINKI)* conference, hosted by the College of Charleston, and at the *Southern Conference on Linguistics*, held in New Orleans, LA.

He has also worked with his linguistics students in creating a corpus of Spanish in the Lowcountry. As part of this project, Dr. Viñas-de-Puig mentored three student poster presentations at the *Spanish Linguistics in North Carolina (SLINKI)* conference, hosted by the College of Charleston.

**DR. JOSEPH WEYERS**

Dr. Joseph Weyers’s research on Spanish forms of address continues to provide new opportunities and venues. Over the last three years, Dr. Weyers has focused his attention on the linguistic profile of Medellín, Colombia. As a result, his most recent publications, along with others in progress, stem from his fieldwork in South America. In July 2016, his book chapter “Making the case for increased prestige of the vernacular: Medellín’s voseo” will be published in *Forms of address in the Spanish-speaking world* (New York: John Benjamins). He presented the findings for that article at the 2016 MIFLC Conference, hosted by the College of Charleston. In addition to Medellín’s voseo, Dr. Weyers researched and documented the use of English in that city, resulting in his in-press article “English shop names in the retail landscape of Medellín, Colombia” (*English Today*). Finally, as part of his work as co-director of the Global Scholars program, Dr. Weyers initiated a new faculty lecture series, providing the inaugural talk on his paper “Cross-national advertising in Spanish: Forms of address in commercial signage in the US and Mexico,” which he expects to be published later this year.
Dr. Carl Wise published two articles this year on theater in the Spanish Empire: “América desencuadernada por Lope de Vega: Texto y escritura en El nuevo mundo descubierto por Cristóbal Colón” in Bulletin of Hispanic Studies and “Eclipsed Autonomy: Celestial Images and the Free Will Debate in Antonio Mira de Amescua’s Álvaro de Luna Plays” in Bulletin of the Comediantes. In November, Dr. Wise delivered the Sigma Delta Pi Distinguished Lecture, “Stranger than Fiction: Text and Imagination in Lope de Vega’s America,” and he also presented a conference paper at the Kentucky Foreign Language Conference. In addition, Dr. Wise participated in panel presentations on digital humanities at both the Mountain Interstate Foreign Language Conference and the East Carolina University’s Digital Humanities in the Disciplines Conference.
The College of Charleston's School of Languages, Cultures and World Affairs hosted the 65th annual Mountain Interstate Foreign Language Conference (MIFLC) on October 15-17, 2015, with Dr. Mark P. Del Mastro, Chair of Hispanic Studies, serving as MIFLC President.

The Mountain Interstate Foreign Language Conference is an annual forum of university, college, and high school scholars and teachers for exchanging ideas and advancing the cause of scholarship in foreign language studies. It is held each fall at a host university in Alabama, Georgia, Kentucky, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, or West Virginia, although the draw is national and international in scope; and it consists of three days of presentations in multiple sessions, with a banquet and specially invited keynote speaker. The conference also sponsors the MIFLC Review, an annual refereed journal of selected papers on foreign languages and literatures from the conference and edited by Dr. Jeremy Cass of Furman University.

Hispanic Studies Faculty with other conventioneers during the MIFLC opening reception in Randolph Hall

Dr. Mark P. Del Mastro welcomes conventioneers during the conference banquet in the Stern Center Ballroom

Dr. Marianne Verlinden during her conference presentation

By Daniel Delgado Photography
The College of Charleston was honored to host annual conference the SLINKI (Spanish Linguistics in North Carolina) and SLISE (Spanish Linguistics in the South East), organized by Drs. Ricard Viñas-de-Puig and Hilary Barnes of Hispanic Studies.
FOCUS ON THE FACULTY

The Nu Zeta Chapter of Sigma Delta Pi
National Collegiate Hispanic Honor Society

Sigma Delta Pi Lecture Series

Dr. Carl Wise, Assistant Professor
Department of Hispanic Studies, College of Charleston

Stranger than Fiction:
Text and Imagination in Lope de Vega's America

Tuesday, March 1, 2016
5:00 pm
Addlestone Library, Room 227

In Lope de Vega’s film roman, described by Cronica (1604), the universe seems bound together in paper and ink as if it were a book. The Europeans describe the world by citing pages from Ptolomy, and Christopher Columbus’s crew envision itself as characters in Quintana Cortés’s Chronicle of Alexander the Great. However, conceiving of reality as text and business profitable in Lope’s Colombia exposes a new world that exists quite literally, outside the pages of all European knowledge. Without any formal references with which the Spanish explorers can interpret the discovery, Lope reveals there in the European systems of representation and suggests that America is a concept that needs description.

Free and open to the public - Lecture will be in English

For more information, please contact Mark P. Del Marmol, Chair, Hispanic Studies
843.953.4540 - delmarmol@cofc.edu - spanish@cofc.edu

FOCUS ON THE FACULTY

Please join us for the third lecture in the Hispanic Studies Teaching Discussion Series
Innovations and Challenges in Second-Language Teaching

Prof. Devon Hanahan
College of Charleston Department of Hispanic Studies

“From Instructor to Facilitator: Learner-Centered Teaching Practices in the Language Classroom”

Thursday, March 3, 2016
4:00 pm
Maybank Hall, Room 108, 165 Calhoun Street, College of Charleston

We are language teachers, and as such, we study grammar, vocabulary, and cultural information to do our jobs. But to be truly successful we need to know our students as well. Knowing how they perceive their learning abilities and giving them a dynamic role in the classroom will make them successful learners and will make your job easier.

Free and open to the public - Lecture will be in English

Teaching Discussion Series Organizers
Katie Bengston-Jones
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FOCUS ON THE FACULTY

College of Charleston Linguistics Studies Program
and CoC Linguistics Club present
~ A Linguistics Talk ~

Dr. Hilary Barnes
Assistant Professor of Spanish and Linguistics, College of Charleston

“Language Ideologies and Language Maintenance in an Immigrant Community in Mexico”

What causes a minority language group to shift to the dominant language or maintain their own? Most immigrant languages are lost within three generations; this talk will focus on a small Nahuatl (Nahua)-speaking immigrant community in Mexico that has continued to speak their language for over 150 years. Questions of language maintenance vs. shift and the link between language and identity will be discussed.

Tuesday, February 2, 2016
4:00 pm
J2C Long 402-B, 9 Liberty Street, College of Charleston

Free and open to the public - Lecture will be in English.

For more information, please contact:
Elizabeth A. Martinez-Libera, PhD
Professor of Spanish & Linguistics
Director of Linguistic Studies
843.953.8869
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FOCUS ON THE FACULTY

Please join us for the inaugural lecture in the Global Scholars Faculty Lecture Series

Joseph R. Weyers, PhD
College of Charleston Department of Hispanic Studies and Global Scholars Program

“Cross-national advertising in Spanish:
Forms of address in commercial signage in the US and Mexico”

Wednesday, November 11, 2015
4:00 pm
Wells Fargo Auditorium, Beatty Center, 5 Liberty Street, College of Charleston

Advertising and other forms of communication in Spanish and Spanish-speaking countries has rapidly transformed the language into a tool for advertising commercial services and products. Advertising and other forms of communication in Spanish and Spanish-speaking countries are now written and spoken throughout the world. This talk examines the cultural and practical business implications of these linguistic differences.

Free and open to the public - Lecture will be in English.

The Global Scholars program is a university-wide initiative designed to encourage the participation of students and faculty in contributing positively to a global citizenry. The program meets the changing demands brought about by globalization and requires students and faculty members who understand and work toward developing a wider global perspective.

For more information, please contact:
Global Scholars
843.953.3982
 globalscholars@cofc.edu

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FOCUS ON THE FACULTY

Please join us for the second lecture in the Hispanic Studies Teaching Discussion Series
Innovations and Challenges in Second-Language Teaching

Antonio Pérez-Núñez
College of Charleston Department of Hispanic Studies

“Beyond the Classroom: The Use of Online Platforms for Conversation Practice with Native Speakers”

Thursday, November 12, 2015
3:30 pm
JC Long Bldg., Room 336, 9 Liberty Street, College of Charleston

In this presentation, Dr. Pérez-Núñez will examine the potential of two online language platforms for conversation practice (Nonstop and Talk About) to connect students with native speakers around the world in Spanish, French, Mandarin, Arabic, German or Italian. In addition, he will address how online interaction between students and native speakers can be integrated into the curriculum to help students develop their linguistic skills and socio-cultural knowledge beyond the language classroom.

Free and open to the public - Lecture will be in English.

Wait, what?! These should(n’t) be different! Expletive negation in a Spanish-Catalan bilingual situation

Dr. Ricard Viñas de Puig
Assistant Professor of Spanish and Linguistics, College of Charleston

Tuesday, March 22, 2016
4:00 pm
JC Long 402-B, 9 Liberty Street, College of Charleston

This talk explores an understudied morphosyntactic feature to present evidence of linguistic divergence between Catalan and present-day Spanish. We will also compare this new variable with other morphological variables in Catalan and Spanish. The conclusions are based on an original 10,000-words elicitation.

Free and open to the public - Lecture will be in English.

Please join us for the second lecture in the Global Scholars Faculty Lecture Series

Sarah Owens, PhD
College of Charleston Department of Hispanic Studies

Spanish Nuns on the Indies Fleets: Global Travel in the Early Modern World

Wednesday, February 24, 2016
4:00 pm
Well Fargo Auditorium, 5 Liberty Street, College of Charleston

Navigational routes opened by the Portuguese and Spanish Indies Fleets allowed for the movement of people and goods across the globe. Spanish nuns traveled on Spanish galleons alongside soldiers, merchants, sailors, and slaves as they traveled from the Philippines to the Caribbean and back. This talk will explore the experiences of Spanish nuns during their transatlantic and transpacific voyages.

Free and open to the public - Lecture will be in English.
Hispanic Studies Review (HSR) is an international refereed journal published twice a year by the Department of Hispanic Studies at the College of Charleston. The journal welcomes submissions on cultural studies, applied and theoretical linguistics, and the literatures of the Spanish-speaking worlds and their contact zones. HSR particularly invites scholarship with approaches that are interdisciplinary and/or engage innovative dialogues. HSR only accepts electronic submissions at [hsr@cofc.edu], and each manuscript will undergo a rigorous double-blind peer review. Previously published material and work under consideration elsewhere will not be considered. HSR is not responsible for the opinions expressed by contributors. The journal’s editorial team will respond to contributors in a timely manner.

http://hispanicstudiesreview.cofc.edu

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The academic year of 2015-2016 marks the fifteenth anniversary of the Portuguese Program! Our students have been to CEFET-Curitiba, Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais, and UniSul, as exchange students. We have taken students to Brazil, with variation in their itineraries from remote Amazon to Iguazu Falls. We continue with our activities with the Portuguese Club, conversation classes, and a variety of curricular activities. Last year we founded the Alpha Sigma local chapter of the Portuguese Honor Society Phi Lambda Beta. It is always great to learn that our Portuguese students are affiliated with universities, working in airline companies, in Brazilian consulates, or are lawyers in the U.S., or keep playing capoeira after leaving the College, where many learned the fundamentals of the ‘beautiful game.’ Congratulations to all of those who studied Portuguese at the College of Charleston! Ours deepest gratitude and appreciation to the founders of the Portuguese Program, Dr. Douglas Friedman and Timothy Coates.
On March 18, we had our traditional feijoada, with live music. The feijoada was delicious. Omar Valencia and Thomas Mattar, two students of music, provided live Brazilian music! In the photos below are some scenes from the feijoada.

We continue to have the Bate-Papos, mostly at the Stern Center. We always surprise each other bringing something to eat and drink… from guaraná to Brazilian cookies, it is always a literally sweet event!

On March 31 we joined the LCWA World Cultures Fair at the Stern Center Gardens. The theme of our table this year was “The Amazon Rain Forest and Its Sustainability.” In addition to lots of information displayed in books, photos, posters, exotic art crafts, piranhas, indigenous art, we also served guaraná and Brazil nuts… directly from the Brazilian Amazon to the visitors! And our table won the prize as “Most Informative Table” of the Fair! Isn’t that cool? In the photo below, students and Dr. Luci Moreira at the Portuguese Table.

On April 21 we had our second Alpha Sigma – Phi Lambda Beta Honor Society ceremony, followed by a Sarau de Poesia and Brazilian sweets. Inducted were student Ryder Hine, who took several 300-level classes and also spent a semester in Florianópolis, Brazil; Dr. Bethany Beyer, a Visiting Assistant Professor teaching Portuguese and Spanish in the Hispanic Studies Department; and Dr. Timothy Coates, a Brazilian and Portuguese History Professor, and one of the founders of the Portuguese Program. Students read poems, enjoyed the company of their colleagues, and loved the afternoon at the beautiful Block House on Bull Street.

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**Alpha Sigma - Phi Lambda Beta Honor Society Ceremony**

**Feijoada**

**Omar Valencia and Thomas Mattar**
On September 12, 2015, the Hispanic Latino Club, through its connections with DJ Luigi, invited the campus community to join its members at Southend Brewery for a night of Latin dances. College Night, as this event is known, started with a free salsa lesson. It was a success.

On October 28, the Club invited students at the Spanish House to paint sugar skulls for the Día de los Muertos, a Mexican tradition. The conversation flowed freely from Spanish, to French, to Portuguese during this fun event. Special thanks to the Division of Student Affairs, who provided the supplies.

On November 17, 2015, the Club participated in the annual World Culture Fair held at The Citadel. The event celebrated cultural exchanges. Club officers decorated a table and served Latin American fruit drinks and sweets.

On February 3, 2016, President McConnell invited student leaders from underrepresented student populations to a “Conversation about College Diversity and Inclusion.” Kat Roach, Club president, represented HLC at the event.

On February 17, the Club, in conjunction with the Spanish House, invited students to view the first episode of the award-winning Netflix series Narcos in Berry Residence Hall. Vice-president Carmen BensVega and President Kat Roach led a discussion on stereotypes plaguing Colombia and on the impact of US drug consumption habits on Latin American countries. The viewing was well attended and the discussion was lively. Refreshments and snacks were served.

The Hispanic Latino Club concluded the year with its participation at the CofC World Cultures Fair on March 31. Arroz con leche was served on a colorful table decorated with Latin American objects.
SPANISH CLUB

The club organized the “Café y Galletas” event on March, 3rd 2016. To the left is Club president John Mahan (seated) with Dr. Emily Beck.

Later on March 31st, the Spanish Club participated in the World Cultures Fair where members shared cultural and academic information and Hispanic food with the student community at the College of Charleston.
SPANISH CLUB - TERTULIAS

Spanish Club

TERTULIA

Practice your Spanish and have fun with us!
From 4:30 to 7:30 at Mynt (135 Calhoun Street)

September 4, 25 & 11
October 9 & 23
November 6 & 20
December 4

By Daniel Delgado Photography

CofC faculty and students enjoy Spanish Club Tertulia at Mynt on Calhoun Street
The College of Charleston’s Nu Zeta Chapter of Sigma Delta Pi, the National Collegiate Hispanic Honor Society, was selected as an “Honor Chapter” for the 5th consecutive year. Only 12 of the 607 chapters nationwide were selected for this prestigious honor for outstanding activities realized during the 2014-15 academic year.

On November, 12th 2015, the College of Charleston’s and The Citadel’s chapters of Sigma Delta Pi, the National Collegiate Hispanic Honor Society announced the winner of their 11th annual South Carolina Spanish Teacher of the Year Award for 2015: Elizabeth Carter of Meadow Glen Middle School (Lexington). Dr. Mark P. Del Mastro, Chair of Hispanic Studies, is the Founding Director of this awards program.

The runners-up were Gicela Mondragon of Montesorri School of Anderson and Amanda Langsdorf Reilly of S.C. Whitmore School (Chapin)

The awards ceremony took place at the College of Charleston. All three finalists received award plaques courtesy of the College of Charleston's and The Citadel's chapters of Sigma Delta Pi, and each finalist and their guests (one guest per finalist) enjoyed complimentary lodging the evening of November 12, 2015 and breakfast on November 13 courtesy of the Francis Marion Hotel in downtown Charleston.
On Monday, November 16, 2015 at 5:00pm in the Alumni Center of the School of Education, the following students were initiated into the College of Charleston’s Nu Zeta Chapter of Sigma Delta Pi, the National Collegiate Hispanic Honor Society: Tori Akerley, Anna Lee Ashmore, Keane Costello, Mariel Dronson, Christianna Ducharme, Savannah Fuller, Edwin Randolph Hille, Clare Hogan, Samantha Huddleston, Audrey Kaiser, Hope Mulry, Anne Nicoletti, Megan Norton, Olivia Roberson, Fabiana Simone, Rachel Taylor, Rodney Donovan Taylor and Lan Tran. Also initiated as honorary members were the following faculty: Drs. Edward Chauca and Antonio Pérez-Núñez. A reception followed the ceremony.

On March 1st, 2016 as part of the Sigma Delta Pi Faculty Lecture Series, Professor Carl Wise presented "Stranger than Fiction: Text and Imagination in Lope de Vega's America"

On April 7th, 2016, the College of Charleston’s national award-winning Nu Zeta Chapter of Sigma Delta Pi, the National Collegiate Hispanic Honor Society, initiated the following 9 students during a ceremony held at 5:00pm in the Alumni Center of the School of Education:

- Torrie R. Buchanan
- Manuela Chaverra Zapata
- Alexandra E. Comey
- Courtney R. Eker
- Eileen C. Flock
- Devon A. Gaffey
- Ashton E. Getchell
- Joanna L. Grabert
- Maya Novák-Cogdell
Also initiated as honorary members (from left to right below) were Professors Martha A. Maus, Mary Ann Blitt and Lauren N. Hetrovic.

On April 14th, 2016, the College of Charleston’s Nu Zeta Chapter of Sigma Delta Pi, the National Collegiate Hispanic Honor Society hosted their “Noche de Poesía” to celebrate Hispanic poetry with faculty and students from the Hispanic Studies Department.
SIGMA DELTA PI - HONOR CORDS CEREMONY

Graduating student members of Sigma Delta Pi after receiving their honor cords

Dr. Mark Del Mastro during the presentation of honor cords

Dr. Antonio Tillis, Dean of the School of Languages, Cultures and World Affairs, addresses guests
During the past academic year the residents of the Casa Hispana have participated in and hosted a variety of events. They attended several lectures, among them Walt Wolfram’s “The Sociolinguistic Significance of Martin Luther King, Jr.”. Together with the Hispanic Latino Club, they showed the first episode of the series Narcos, with a discussion on Colombian stereotypes.

The Casa Hispana was represented at a table at the LCWA World Cultures Fair, where the residents talked with attendees and answered questions about the Casa.

They participated in several fun events, including a salsa night at the Southend Brewery, and enjoying good conversation with friends in many Tertulias. They also engaged in skull painting along with the Hispanic Latino Club to celebrate El día de los muertos.

During Spring break, four of the residents traveled to Medellín with Dr. Weyers’ sociolinguistics class SPAN 491. El español de Colombia is a class that includes a trip to Colombia during Spring Break as one of its requirements. Four of the residents were peer conversation teachers, teaching two classes each in the Spanish Conversation Class program.

The house will be filled to capacity in Fall 2016, and will welcome seven new residents.
Tony Cella (2006) defended his dissertation “Un análisis sociocrítico de algunas narconarrativas mexicanas” on June 11, 2014 at The University of Virginia. He is now an Assistant Professor of Spanish at Benedictine University at Mesa (Arizona), a four-year private Catholic institution geared to serving the local Hispanic community. He is in charge of launching the Spanish major and the Medical Spanish concentration. In addition to teaching, Tony continues to research contemporary Mexican narrative (Paco Ignacio Taibo II, Eduardo Antonio Parra, Jorge Volpi, and Luis Humberto Crosthwaite). He is engaged to be married to Manuela Jiménez, a postdoctoral scholar at the Sanford School of Social and Family Dynamics at Arizona State University, in June 2016.
Stephanie Madison Schneck graduated from CofC in 2006 with a BA in Spanish and a K-12 Teaching Certification. She earned her MA in Romance Languages from Appalachian State University and is currently a doctoral student at Clemson University in the Literacy, Language, and Culture program. She has taught high school Spanish in North and South Carolina, and elementary school English in Madrid, Spain. Stephanie is the current president of the SC Chapter of the The American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese (AATSP) and serves on the South Carolina Foreign Language Teachers’ Association (SCFLTA) board. In addition, she sponsors the Sociedad Honoraria Hispánica at Clover High School in Clover, SC.
STAY IN TOUCH – UPDATE CLASS NOTES

We would like to know what you have been up to lately!

Tell us about your new job, promotion, move to a new city, marriage, addition(s) to the family, special honors received, or anything else you wish to share, join our Facebook group CofCAlumniHispanicStudies and share your story with us!

HispaNews is produced as a service to alumni and friends of the Department of Hispanic Studies
Contact us: hispanews@cofc.edu

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¡Muchas gracias por su generosidad y apoyo!
Muito obrigado por sua generosidade e apoio!