

The Foreign Languages Newsletter

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FROM THE CHAIR

With this final issue of the *Newsletter* for the current academic year we are delighted to report on the impressive participation by our students in this year's Academic Spree Day held on Wednesday April 22 in the UC. This includes posters (a new first for us) that detail students' work on senior honors projects, as well as a spectacular eleven-person panel involving participants from this year's 'Studies in the National Imagination' class. This, the largest number ever to participate in Spree Day from our Department, represents a variety of research projects from our Comparative Literature, German, Japanese, and Spanish programs. I want to thank Professors Carol D'Lugo, Constance Montross, Luisa-María Rojas-Rimachi, Robert Tobin and Alice Valentine for all their help in making this year's Spree Day such a stellar event.

We are especially gratified by the series of off-campus responses to our recent Alumni Notes column which inspired two alums to get back in touch with the Department. We invite others to keep those e-mails coming.

Let me close by wishing members of our extended community in Worcester and beyond a happy and productive summer. We look forward to seeing you in the Fall. Hasta pronto!

Marvin D'Lugo

RECORD-BREAKING ACADEMIC SPREE DAY

Academic Spree Day, now in its 19th year, will be celebrated on April 22. Mark the date and time.

HONOR STUDENTS' POSTERS

LOCATED IN TILTON HALL & UC NOON – 4:30 P.M.

Caleb Evanter (Spanish '09) "The Prevalence of Hispanics in Baseball." Sponsor: Prof. Carol D'Lugo.
Christine Gill. (Spanish '09) "Promoting Second-Language Acquisition: Using Natural Acquisition

Sequences in Spanish Foreign Language Education" Sponsor: Prof. Constance Montross

Rachel Reizen (Spanish '09) "Constructing the Collective Self: Dominican Identity and Rejection of Blackness" Sponsor: Luisa-María Rojas-Rimachi.

PANEL: THE NATIONAL IMAGINATION

2:40 – 4:30 P.M.: PERSKY CONFERENCE ROOM

Bryanna Goldberg (Sociology/Spanish '09). "Perceptions of Women in Argentina: La puta contra la santa" (Sponsor: Prof. Marvin D'Lugo)

Elizabeth Hanwacker (Environmental Science/French '09) "Hacer Argentina en el Interior: Visualizing the Argentine Countryside." (Sponsor: Prof. Marvin D'Lugo)

Karleen Porcena (Government/Spanish '09) "Showing Our Colors: The Afro-German Tradition" (Sponsor: Prof. Robert Tobin)

Eva Mozena Brandon (Spanish '09). "German Identity in Comedy: No Laughing Matter" (Sponsor: Prof. Robert Tobin)

Richard Segal (Undeclared '12). "Borrowed Anthem: The Construction of the Japanese National Anthem" (Sponsor: Prof. Alice Valentine)

Jeremy Sanders (History '10), **Adam Linder** (Music '10) and **Margaret Kettles** (Intl. Dev '10): "German Music Video: From Pappa to Pop" (Sponsor: Prof. Robert Tobin)

Victoria Krinsky (Undeclared '12), **Sahar Suleman** (Communication and Culture '10) and **Allison Kennely** (Spanish '11): "Soccer Nationalism in Germany" (Sponsor: Prof. Robert Tobin)

ALUMNI NOTES

Omar Pom (French '99) writes: "I have recently been granted tenure at St. Dominic High School in Dutch St. Martin (Netherlands Antilles) after almost 2 years of contract employment. St. Dominic High School is a semi-public, integrated high and middle school. I teach Spanish and French at primarily the middle-school level. I am also editor-in-chief of the

school website and a member of the information literacy project committee. Living here on Dutch St. Martin for almost three years, affords many benefits, one of which is connecting with some of my maternal grandparents' relatives. They are the main branch of a family that extends over a few Caribbean islands. There are many challenges in teaching-- especially as a fairly new teacher -- but I enjoy life on Dutch St. Martin and when possible I like visiting the surrounding islands. Of interest to me is the chance to cross the border into French St. Martin and feel like I am in Mediterranean France! It is also exceedingly nice to be able to speak up to five languages in one day."

Michael Aristide (Spanish '00) writes: "I am now completing my 9th year teaching Spanish at St. John's High School in Shrewsbury, MA, where I teach all levels and abilities. During my years at St. John's, I have led three trips to Spain with anywhere from 20-25 students and chaperones.

Having studied at the Tandem International School while a student at Clark, I have a love for Madrid and I return as often as possible. The school trips that I run through St. John's have been a great way to get back and visit my favorite places in Spain and especially to see my former host family. It has been such a pleasure to see my current students in Spain and to share my own personal experiences with them while there.

Earlier this month, a colleague and I led a group of 22 boys to see "Tocar el Cielo" at the 14th annual Latino Film Festival. This was a first for the Spanish club at St. John's. Hopefully we can make it a tradition to attend one of the films each year. I was very excited to see so many of our students there!"

GRADUATING SENIOR AWARDS

Each spring, the Department recognizes the academic achievement of seniors with awards presented at Honors Convocation on Commencement Sunday (May 17) This year's awards include the Fannin King Prize, which goes to **Kate Lerner**; the Raymond Barbera Spanish award for **Caleb Evanter, Christine Gill** and **Rachel Reizen** and the Barbera Prize in Comparative Literature, which is awarded to **Eva Mozena Brandon**. Our congratulations to all these award recipients and our best wishes for their continued academic success!

FACULTY NOTES

Professor of Spanish, **CAROL D'LUGO**, will attend the Latin American Studies Association meetings in Rio de Janeiro in June, where she will participate in the panel "Mexican Crises in the International Imaginary." Prof. D'Lugo will speak on "Narrativizing Chiapas." Her essay, "Fictions of Apprenticeship: Following the Growth of Narrative Strategies and Cultural Ideologies in Rosario Castellanos" will appear in the next issue of *Hispanófila*.

MARVIN D'LUGO, Professor of Spanish, travels to Tokyo in May to attend the Society for Cinema and Media Studies convention where he will participate in a panel on "Early Cinema and Race in Latin America." He will read a paper entitled "Intermedial Modernity in Early Mexican Cinema." In mid-June he will be at the LASA meeting in Rio de Janeiro where he will chair a panel he organized on "Transnational Hispanic Cinema: Transnational Aesthetic and Global Commercial Flows."

THE FOREIGN LANGUAGES NEWSLETTER is published by the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures, Estabrook Hall 301, Clark University, Worcester, MA 01610. Please send news items and announcements of coming events to Newsletter Editor, care of the Department, or call us at (508) 793-7342, 793-7234 (e-mail: jberg@clarku.edu). If you are not yet on our mailing list, please fill out this coupon and return it to us so that we can keep you fully informed of Foreign Languages Department activities.

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