

# The Foreign Languages Newsletter

Clark University · Worcester, Massachusetts

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## NEW POSITIONS IN SPANISH AND GERMAN

This January and February, the Foreign Languages Department is hosting candidates for two new full-time, tenure-track positions, one in Spanish, the other in German. According to professors MARVIN D'LUGO and KENNETH HUGHES, directors of the search committees for Spanish and German respectively, the number of high-quality applications for these positions has been astonishing: more than 150 for the Spanish, and over 200 for the German. Many of the applications are from persons who already have tenure at their current institutions, a curious fact that speaks very well for Clark's reputation.

Whatever the explanation for this *embarras de richesses*, we can be sure that our two future colleagues will be of the highest caliber.

## FACULTY NOTES

Instructor of Hebrew TZILLA BARONE continues her participation in the L'Chaim project. Since last year the project has been extended to numerous schools and communities across the nation, as well as a school in Haifa, Israel. Currently students in Israel and the U.S. are interviewing Holocaust survivors. Their stories will be published in book form. The accounts in Hebrew will be translated into English by students in our own Foreign Languages Department, in conjunction with the program in Holocaust Studies.

Instructor of Spanish INGRID MATOS-NIN has been invited to speak at the ninth annual

Carolina Conference on Romance Languages to be held in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, sponsored by the Romance Languages and Literatures Department of the University of North Carolina, March 20-22. Her lecture is titled "La adivinación e instrumentos mágicos en 'El desengaño amando y premio de la virtud', by María de Zayas y Sotomayor."

Professor Matos-Nin's article on this author, "La importancia del tema sobrenatural en María de Zayas y Sotomayor," will be published shortly by the *Revista Atenea*, the official literary journal of the University of Puerto Rico (Mayagüez campus).

Professor of Spanish MARVIN D'LUGO's essay "Transnational Film Authors and the State of Latin American Cinema" appears in the recently published anthology *Film and Authorship*, Virginia Wright Wexman, ed., New Brunswick, New Jersey: Rutgers University Press, 2002, pp. 112-130.

On February 28, Prof D'Lugo will be the plenary speaker at the Cine-Lit V Conference held in conjunction with the Portland (Oregon) Film Festival. The title of his talk will be "Transnational Phenomena in Spanish Cinema."

Assistant Professor of French BETH GALE has had scholarly papers accepted at two professional conferences. One is a colloquium under the rubric "Beginnings," to be held in Stirling, Scotland in March of this year. The other, to be held in May, is the 71e Congrès de l'Acfas (Association franco-phone pour le savoir) at the University of Quebec at Rimouski. The session in which Prof. Gale's paper will be presented is titled "L'Enfance politique."

Associate Professor of Spanish WILLIAM FERGUSON has written two reviews for *The New York Times Book Review*. Adam Braver's *Mr. Lincoln's Wars* is a collection of thirteen stories about the travails, both public and personal, that this most special of presidents was forced to endure. *Grace*, Elizabeth Nunez's latest novel, is about a Trinidadian English professor and his family living in Brooklyn. One of the recurring topics in this book is the question of what belongs in the "canon", that is, the ever-changing list of culturally appropriate literary works.

Both reviews are currently in press.

**FLORENCE RESNICK DEDICATION**

Our secretary Florence Resnick, who died of an illness last year, will be formally remembered in a ceremony this spring. On May 2, a bench on the Clark campus will be dedicated to her memory.

Florence served the Department with admirable energy and flair. She was not only a splendid secretary, but a beloved friend as well. We miss her very much.

**TECHNOLOGY INITIATIVES**

\* Three combination VCR's/DVD players are now available for small group use in the study rooms at LARC.

\* LARC Director CONSTANCE MONTROSS attended the NERALLD meeting in October at

UMASS/Amherst. (NERALLD is the acronym for the New England Regional Association of Language Laboratory Directors.) She and BETH GALE plan to attend the next meeting at Yale University in March.

\* Japanese, Spanish (and soon, French) classes are now able to access audio/video files via Blackboard.

\* Some new titles now available in LARC: Instant Immersion-Language Lab CD's, *La Grande illusion*, *Café au lait*, *Amélie*, *The Umbrellas of Cherbourg*, *Mi vida loca*, *Mambo Mouth*, and *Run, Lola, Run*.

\* Students in CMLT 130 ("The National Imagination") are currently viewing online short videos of the three professors discussing key topics of the course. Students will be working on technology projects throughout the semester.

\* Prof. Montross' Spanish 105 students will soon be creating PowerPoint presentations on trips through Latin America.

\* Thanks to ANTHONY HELMS, CHERYL ELWELL and TRACY AXELSON, several Foreign Languages faculty have received invaluable training in digital editing, the use of digital cameras, camcorders, and scanners, and have toured the new digital media lab in Carlson Hall.

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. 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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