

# The Foreign Languages Newsletter

Clark University · Worcester, Massachusetts

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## A LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

The beginning of an academic year is always an exciting time at Clark and this is particularly so this year for the members of the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures. We welcome two new full-time colleagues—whose profiles may be found elsewhere in the *Newsletter*—and one visiting professor on exchange from the Tandem Institute in Madrid. Our new members bring new energy, new ideas, and new courses to the Department.

The Department's vitality is to be found not only in our new colleagues, but in our more seasoned faculty as well, enhancing the Department's reputation as a place of innovative teaching and devoted service, both to the community and to Clark's student body. Two recent awards received by members of the Department illustrate this:

WILLIAM FERGUSON was named this year's Outstanding Academic Advisor, an award that follows his being named Outstanding Teacher of the Year in 1999. Students who nominated Bill spoke of his genuine concern for their academic progress at Clark, and of the invaluable counsel he was always ready to give them.

MARVIN D'LUGO received the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual John W. Lund Community Achievement award—shared with Ethan Prosnit—for his work in bringing the Worcester Latino Film Festival to Clark. Marvin also brought influential Latino filmmakers to Clark, thus creating what president John Bassett calls "a unique educational and cultural experience for all who participated." In these festivals, intended in part to forge a bond between the academic and local communities, Marvin has been an inspiration and a guiding force.

Our congratulations to both colleagues. They exemplify the essential role our department plays and will continue to play in Clark's educational mission.

*Michael Spingler*

## NEW FACULTY

DANIEL JIRO TANAKA joins the Department as Assistant Professor of German. At Harvard, Jiro received his B.A. in German literature *summa cum laude*. He earned his doctoral degree at Princeton; his dissertation was titled *Forms of Disenchantment: Kant and Neo-Kantianism in the Early Works of Walter Benjamin*. He has also studied at the Free University in Berlin.

BELÉN ATIENZA, a native of Barcelona, earned her M.A. and Ph.D. degrees at Princeton University. She has a strong interest in theater and at the moment is revising her dissertation on madness in the works of Lope de Vega for publication.

This year, PILAR JUSTO MUÑOZ is our exchange Tandem instructor from Madrid. She earned her B.A. and M.A. degrees from the Universidad Complutense de Madrid. Among other things, Pilar is involved in translating contemporary Lebanese short stories into Spanish.

A warm welcome to all of them from their colleagues, students and friends. We're glad to have them with us.

## FRENCH TA's

Our three French Teaching Assistants have all finally arrived on campus. JEAN-BAPTISTE GOYARD is from Versailles, where he is studying for his doctorate in American Civilization and 18<sup>th</sup> Century History. He has taught British history as well. He plans to take advantage of the many research opportunities offered by the American Antiquarian Society here in Worcester.

We also have two TA's from the University of Burgundy in Dijon. One is ELODIE GREGOIRE, who has her diploma in English and spent a year in Milwaukee as an *au pair*. She likes travel, water skiing, flying, and meeting new people; she arrived on campus after a stopover at Niagara Falls.

The other is JULIETTE GUY, who also has her diploma in English and is a fan of Stephen King. She has directed and assisted in film production; other interests are theatre, dance, drawing, painting, crafts and travel. Juliette has already visited both California and Florida and looks forward to exploring New England and Maine.

A hearty welcome to them all!

### FACULTY NOTES

Assistant Professor of Spanish BELÉN ATIENZA has had an article accepted for inclusion in a collection published by the Modern Language Association and edited by Meg Greer and Laura Bass, *Approaches to Teaching Spanish Golden Age Theater*. Professor Atienza's article is titled "Rape and Violence in the Classroom: The Case of *Fuenteovejuna*".

Professor of German KENNETH HUGHES' essay "A Psychoanalytical Approach to 'The Judgment,'" originally published by the Modern Language Association in the volume *Approaches to Teaching Kafka's Short Fiction*, has been reprinted in *Short Story Criticism*, edited by Justin Karr (New York, 2003).

Department Chair MICHAEL SPINGLER continues to write for *La Revue des Deux Mondes*, France's oldest review of arts and letters. His latest piece, "De l'élégante simplicité des mathématiques," appeared in the July-August issue of the review. It features conversations with Clark colleagues Les Blatt, David Joyce, John Kennison, and Chris Landee of the Departments of Mathematics and Physics.

Two essays by MARVIN D'LUGO have recently appeared in print: "The Adventures of Robinson Crusoe: The Transnational Buñuel in Mexico" appears as a chapter in the volume *Buñuel: El*

*imaginario transcultural*, edited by Gaston Lillo and published by the University of Ottawa Press. The second essay, on the Cuban documentary *Por primera vez* (1967), appears in *Cine documental en América Latina*, edited by Paulo Antonio Paranaguá and published by Cátedra in Madrid.

WILLIAM FERGUSON continues to write regularly for *The New York Times Book Review*. His latest piece, a review of Laura Shaine Cunningham's novel *Dreams of Rescue*, will appear in the September 28th issue. His review of *Special*, a novel by Bella Bathurst, is in press.

### ALUMNI/AE AND OTHER STUDENT NEWS

An undergraduate, VICTORIA IROVANDO ('05), was awarded the Marshall Geer McKim Scholarship for study abroad at Dijon in the spring of 2004.

JENNIFER LAMBERT ('95) is teaching high-school Spanish in Conyers, Georgia, just outside of Atlanta.

NATALYA STOLOVA (Spanish '96) is beginning her duties as an assistant professor of Spanish at Colgate University in Hamilton, New York.

COLLEEN CULLETON ('96) is Assistant Professor of Languages and Culture Studies at the University of North Carolina in Charlotte.

JUAN ROJO (Spanish '98), having completed his doctoral dissertation at Cornell, has begun his teaching duties at Simon's Rock of Bard College.

ANTHONY BUTLER ('00) has completed a Master's in Spanish at Middlebury.

JESSICA SALAMANCA (Spanish '98) is working as the West Africa regional coordinator of UNICEF, now housed in Dakar, Senegal.

JUDITH BROWN (Spanish/Psychology '98) is joining her two passions by working toward an advanced degree in Social Work at New York University.

EMMA JOHNSON (Spanish '99) has been accepted by the Monterrey Language Institute in California for advanced study in International Relations.

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.

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