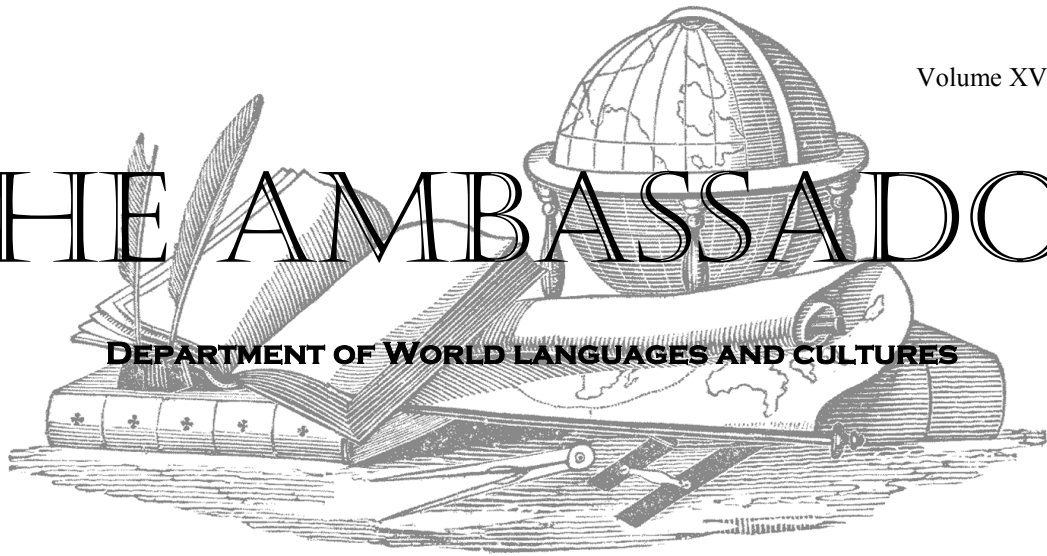


THE AMBASSADOR

DEPARTMENT OF WORLD LANGUAGES AND CULTURES



NOTES FROM THE CHAIR

What does it mean to be a Global Citizen?

There is a lot of discussion these days about global education. Our new Strategic Plan 2015-2020: Engaged, Integrated, Global intends for “students to be immersed in academic, moral, and spiritual learning that cultivates reflection, discernment and action in a global context.” National and international discussions comment on the need for a global citizenry. But what is a global citizen? In *Kosmos: The Journal for Global Transformation*, Ronald C. Israel writes: “A global citizen is someone who identifies with being part of an emerging world community and whose actions contribute to building this community’s values and practices [... while] not abandoning other identities, such as allegiances to our countries, ethnicities and political beliefs” (Spring/Summer 2012, p. 79).



A responsible global citizen knows that s/he shares not only the town or city s/he lives in, but the state, the country, and yes, even the planet. One way to engage in responsible global citizenship is to be aware of the latest version of the United Nations’ Millennium Development Goals, the seventeen Sustainable Development Goals approved on 9/25/2015. For an entertaining musical introduction to the SDGs, check out this YouTube: <http://www.upworthy.com/2-guys-show-you-the-3-ways-our-world-can-be-a-heck-of-a-lot-better-by-2030?c=recon3>. You can see the full list here <http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/>. You can click on each item to learn more about the issue and the targets for improvement. In the meantime, give some thought to your own status as a global citizen.

Inside this issue:

- Faculty Activities
- Fulbright Teaching Assistants
- LAS Program Class
- LAS Film Festival
- Current & Upcoming Events
- Language Learning Center
- Activity Abroad
- Department Happenings
- From Our Alumni

This newsletter can be read in color at the Department of World Languages and Cultures website:
<http://www.scranton.edu/academics/cas/world-languages/newsletter.shtml>

Dr. Linda Ledford-Miller gave a presentation in England at Corsham Court, near Bath, England in June: “The Dangers of Village Life: The Novels of Louise Penny,” at Captivating Criminality 2, a conference for scholars and writers of crime fiction. She and her husband also enjoyed a day of Dylan Thomas in Swansea, Wales.



Building on her research into German-Chilean cultural exchanges in the 1970s, Dr. Jamie H. Trnka presented research at a number of professional conferences and was invited to lecture at Penn State University’s Main Campus, where she also guest taught a graduate course on World Literature, and at Wayne State University in Detroit. She recently completed an article for inclusion in a volume on *GDR Film and the Global Cold War*. An analysis of Carlos Cerda’s and Gunter Scholz’s collaborative film project *April has 30 Days* (1978), it demonstrates the value of transnational and cross-cultural approaches in German Studies. The East German-Chilean collaboration yields a complicated film that combines Latin American melodramatic traditions and a socialist realist aesthetic to great effect. The bad timing typical of melodrama, a preferred genre for representing failed revolution in Latin America, reinforces competing concepts of history, temporality, and developmentalism in the film, concepts that shaped Latin America’s reception of Marxism and which come into sharp relief against everyday life in East Berlin. With an eye to ongoing historiographic debates about temporality and synchronicity, her article offers a counterpoint to analyses of the inter- and transnational that privilege spatial categories at the expense of the temporal.

With the support of the Provost’s and CAS Dean’s Offices, Trnka also attended The 2015 Harvard Institute for World Literature at The University of Lisbon, Portugal, a month-long series of intensive seminars, lectures, and working groups made up of faculty and advanced graduate students from thirty-three countries. She participated in seminars on Comparative Literary Theory, Iberoamerican Literature as World Literature, and Translation Studies, and led a successful working group on “World Literature and Circulation.”



Marie Karam, Director of the Language Learning Center, was recently invited to present *Coverage vs. Understanding by Design: What’s the Big Idea?* at Binghamton University’s 3rd Annual Conference on Foreign Language Teaching. Marie teaches the Subject Methods course for undergrad and grad future world language teachers. Karam has presented over fifty international, national, and regional workshops on teaching World Languages.

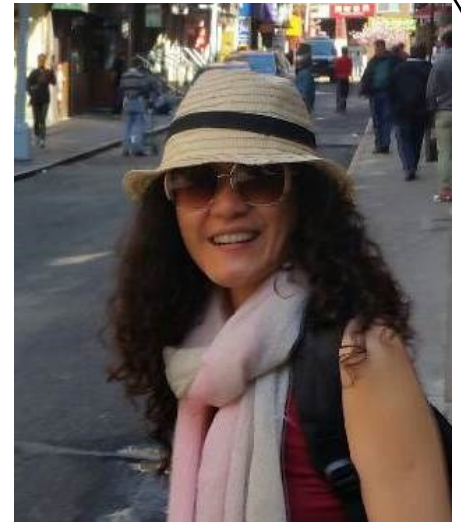


Silva was *referee* for *Cuadernos de Literatura del Caribe e Hispanoamérica (Universidad del Atlántico/Universidad de Cartagena)* in May 2015 and *referee* for *Ambigua, Revista de estudios de género y estudios culturales (Universidad Pablo de Olavide, Sevilla-Spain)* April-May 2015. During Summer 2015, Silva presented her paper “Re-escritura e historiografía en *Relación del descubrimiento del Río Marañón por Gerónimo de Ypori*” at *XIX Congress of Colombianists Association* in Universidad de Antioquia, Medellín, Colombia (July 2-5, 2015). Her peer review article: -“Conquista del espacio en *Relación del descubrimiento del río Marañón por Gerónimo de Ypori*.” *Revista de Estudios Colombianos* 45 was published in August 2015. She submitted her chapter “Agencia e identidad en Las peticiones de Doña Isabel de Salazar (1611) y Doña Ana de Naborrete (1621) desde el Río de la Plata” (pp 25) that will be included in the book *Colonialismos Sur* (Bucknell University Press) edited by Gladys Ilarregui and Ana María Presta. Her review of Montserrat Ordóñez, *La escritura, ese lugar que me acompaña*. Eds. Carolina Alzate, Betty Osorio y Beatriz Restrepo. Bogotá: Ediciones Uniandes, 2014. 208 pp. was accepted and will be published in *Letras Femeninas Vol. 41, Número 1 (invierno 2015)*. In October 9, Silva will present her paper “Propuesta de la nación en la novela decimonónica *Laura* de Soledad Acosta de Samper ”

at *25th Annual Congress of the International Association of Hispanic Women’s Literature and Culture (AILCFH)* in Marquette University. Silva is part of the *Comité de Evaluación y Difusión del Programa Académico y Profesional del Festival de la Palabra del 2015* and will be in San Juan, PR in October 19-25, coordinating the academic part of this *Festival de la Palabra*. She was elected the Vice-president of the academic organization *International Association of Hispanic Women’s Literature and Culture (AILCFH)* for the academic years 2015-2017. Finally, her proposal “Representaciones textuales en la petición de Ana de Naborrete (1621)” was accepted to be included in the *XIX Congreso Internacional de la Asociación Internacional de Hispanistas (AIH)* that will take place in Munich, Germany on July 2016. During the AY 2015-2016, Silva is on sabbatical.



Dr. Habib Zanzana will be presenting a paper titled "The Intrepid French Heroine and the Fantastic. The Case of Les aventures extraordinaires d'Adèle Blanc-Sec in Historical Fantasy Comic Book Series and Film " at the 2015 PAMLA conference. The conference will be held November 6-8 at Portland State University in Portland, Oregon. He will present a second paper in the spring of 2016. His paper, "Gender, Political Violence and the Invincibility of Language in the Narrative of Maïssa Bey " has been accepted for presentation at the NeMLA Conference in Connecticut in March 2016.



Prof. Allison Lai recently published a paper “Enhancing Student Engagement through Authentic Materials in a Chinese Classroom “in a web-based journal “K-12 Chinese Language Teaching “(issue 1, 2015). She will serve as a discussant at 2015 Greater New York Conference on Chinese Education on November 7th, 2015. She will co-lead a travel course to Taiwan with Dr. Ann Pang-White from Philosophy Department during intersession 2016.





From left Celine Langlard, Janina Schimdt, Maria Pia Pallero, Marwa Gaafer, and front Chie Fujikake

Bonjour ! My name is Céline Langlard, and I will be the French FLTA at the University of Scranton this year. Before arriving in Scranton last August, I was living in Lille, a city located in the very Northern part of France, where I have obtained a B.A. in English such as a M.A. in Anglo-American Studies. However, I have spent most of my life in Le Cateau, the birthplace of the famous painter Matisse, and I must say that I am really proud of my regional heritage!

My teaching initiation began during a study semester at Whitworth University in Spokane, WA. I have also occupied the position of French Language teaching assistant at Dinnington Comprehensive School in Sheffield, England, before starting my Master's degree at Lille 3 University. Since an early age, I have always been keen on travelling and discovering new cultures. My initial passion for learning English later turned into a particular interest for American history. As a graduate student, I focused on the relationship between religion and politics, and also became involved in the English Department of my home university for first-year students. Promoting cultural understanding between French and American people has progressively become one of my main objectives. This is one of the reasons why I am already excited about the year coming in! In the months to follow, I hope to continue gaining experience in teaching Foreign Languages, and to learn about American culture, its customs and values. If I am here to help students improving their language skills, it will also be an enormous pleasure for me to share the diversity of French culture at the University of Scranton. J'espère à bientôt ! (*I hope to see you around soon!*)

Janina Schmidt obtained her B.A. in teaching Economics and English as a Second Language at the University of Lüneburg (Germany) in 2014. As a Fulbright Scholar for the academic year of 2015/2016, she currently enriches her Master's studies in second language teaching with intensive and invaluable teaching experiences. Janina is working as a one of the German instructors in the Department for World Languages and Cultures at the University of Scranton. As the German Fulbright FLTA for the academic year of 2015/2016, Janina Schmidt supports the German program of the Department by providing first-hand information about the German culture. As one of her first co-curricular activities, Janina will give a talk on the topic "Welcome to Germany – German Responses to the Syrian Refugees" on October 22nd, 2015 at 12 p.m. (room to be announced in the portal announcements on-line). Students and attendees will learn about Germany's leading role in refugee resettlement, the welcoming attitude of Germans towards the refugees in the country, and their current actions to help refugees to overcome their miserable situations.

Maria Pia Pallero obtained her Diploma in English Language Teaching at Palmiro Bogliano Teacher Training College in Buenos Aires Province, Argentina, in 2009. Since then, she has been teaching English as a Foreign Language at elementary, middle, and high school. She has also been an ELT Pedagogy and Didactics professor at Pamiro Bogliano Teacher Training College, since 2011. She instructs English courses to Spanish and Literature Teaching Trainees and has been part of a Volunteer Graduate Assistantship Program in the subject Language and Speaking I -part of the ELT Training Course- at the above mentioned institution. Attending conferences and courses on teaching development constitutes a regular practice in her search for innovation. At present, she is working on her Research Paper to become a Specialist in Social Educational Practices at the National Central University of the Province of Buenos Aires. As part of the FLTA Program, she is a Spanish instructor of elementary and advanced courses at the University of Scranton, Pennsylvania.

Assalamo Alikom or peace be upon you.

I am Marwa Gaafer, the Arabic Egyptian Fulbright FLTA at the University of Scranton for the academic year 2015 – 2016. I am so happy to be here at the Department of World Languages and Cultures. I am from Alexandria, Egypt. A coastal city at the north of Egypt, it was a cosmopolitan city in the ancient world. A city that embraces history, culture and heritage. I have a bit long educational CV:

BA Education 2002.

Postgrad diploma 2005.

Postgrad diploma 2008.

BA Arts 2010.

MA Arts to be expected by 2016.

My hobbies are: travelling, walking and swimming. I love to meet people from all over the world to see the world through their eyes

Hello! Nice to meet you. はじめまして (Hajimemashite). I'm Chie Fujikake, the Japanese TA. I've been in a capital city, Tokyo, Japan for many years, and I have an experience of teaching English to junior high school (middle school) students. I noticed that almost all the students hesitated to speak English despite the encouragement from their English teachers during classes. That was my experience which made me feel like learning something abroad. Now I'm teaching Japanese and sharing our culture with my students here. The first thing that always comes to my mind is how to make my students involved in our language and culture more, and motivate them to speak our language. I hope my student will spread my culture and use the language beyond the classroom. If you are interested in Japan and want to know more about our culture, or try to use Japanese language, please feel free to ask me or my students when you see us on campus. You will find unique and distinctive aspects, and then you might think about a trip to Japan. I'm looking forward to talking to you and sharing our cultures with each other in this beautiful university.

LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES PROGRAM CLASS

Course Description: This course is a historical survey of the history of documentary film with a slight concentration on American and Latin American films. We will work to understand the social and cultural context of documentary production and its internal form. We will explore the various functions of documentary films. We will screen, read, write about, and discuss many documentary films and bits of fictional ones. Taught in English.

Instructor: Manuel de Alba, Fulbright Scholar in Residence

Wednesdays (Spring 2016) from 5:00 pm to 7:40 pm

For more information please contact linda.ledfordmiller@scranton.edu

LATIN AMERICAN FILM FESTIVAL



Valentín
(Argentina, 2002)
September 29

A coming of age story told through the eyes of a precocious 10-year old boy who lives with his grandmother in turbulent 1969 Argentina.

Violeta Went to Heaven
(Chile, 2011)
October 27

A portrait of famed Chilean singer and folklorist Violeta Parra filled with her musical work, her memories, her loves and her hopes.

Son of the Bride
(Argentina, 2001)
November 17

A family wedding brings out the best and the worst in the various parties involved in this warm but pointed comedy-drama.

BRENNAN 228 7:00 PM

Halloween in Asian Style Film Festival

All Screenings @ DeNaples Moskovitz Theater, Room 401



The Wheel of Life

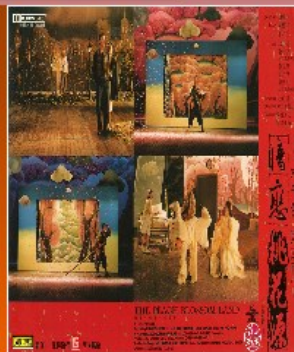
October 14, 2015, 7pm

Unfulfilled love triangles in three life cycles, bound by fate, murders, and an ancient dagger.

Secret Love in the Peach Blossom Land

October 22, 2015, 7pm

Spellbinding! A humorous haunting story about two modern theater troupes fused on stage by accident.



Lost Soul

October 28, 2015, 7pm

A psychological thriller that follows a demonic possession and family secrets that surround it.

The events are free and open to the public.

Contact Information: 570-941-7643 or asianstudies@scranton.edu

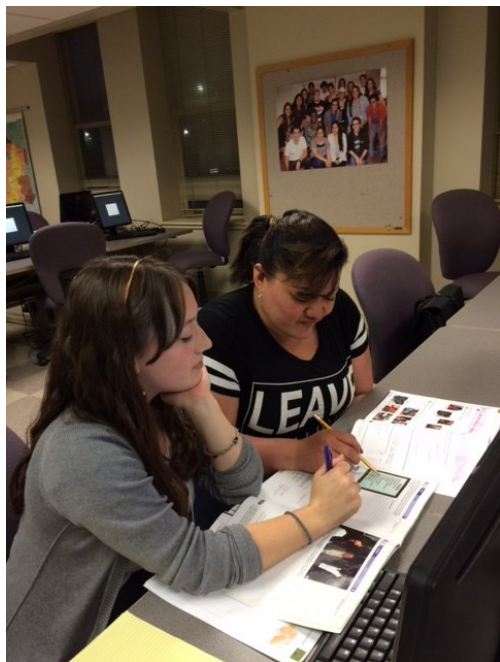




Back row: From Left to right: Sela Fine; Namrata Agrawal ;Sarah Baba;Laura Romanovich; Ling Yi; Preeya Shankar; Hinkish Dhakal;Monica Moussarian

Front row: Left to Right: Max Cornell; Elizabeth Dennis; Prakriti Sharma;Champa Pradhan ; Anjana Magar

The Language Learning Center has begun its second year of weekly high school tutoring for Nepali-Bhutanese refugees who are Scranton's newest residents. Born in Bhutan, a landlocked country at the eastern end of the Himalayas and bordered by China and India, the country's ethnic Nepali population was forced to leave for Nepal in the 1990's when Bhutan's king feared they could overrun the majority group. One student, among the younger refugees born in the camps with no running water or electricity, wrote in her tutoring application "my parents taught me that these hardships were not meant to discourage me, they were meant to help me discover who I am." Many thanks to all the super U of S math, science and ESL tutors led by biochemistry major Max Cornell and LLC's GA Namrata Agrawal, and Hinkish Dhakal.



LLC Staff Shannon Herrmann tutoring adult ESL student. The Language Learning Center tutors children, adults and group ESL throughout the year.



Left to Right: Monica moussarian; Sela Fine, Preeya Shankar; Prakriti Sitaula

ANNUAL FACULTY-LEAD STUDY ABROAD IN FLORENCE ITALY



During the first summer session of 2015, sixteen students joined the University of Scranton Study in Florence Program organized and lead by Dr. Caporale and Dr. Zanzana. In addition to taking classes for credit, students visited many historical sites such as the Roman and Etruscan ruins in the beautiful hill town of Fiesole, near Florence (in photo). The group had an exciting time sampling the local cuisine and sipping on coffee and cappuccino every morning at local coffee shops. The group also visited other major Italian sites such as Venice, the Chianti, region, Siena, and Montalcino.

University of Scranton supporters of the SEED for El Salvador Scholarship Program recently hosted the University of Scranton SEED coordinator from El Salvador, Cristina Quintanilla. The SEED program was founded at the University of Scranton in 2003 by Marie Karam, Director of the Language Learning Center, to support the education K - college of youth in the village of Las Delicias.
Left to right Dr, Robert Parsons, Dr. Christie Karpiak, Cristina Quintanilla, Marie Karam, Dr. Linda Ledford Miller
second row Dr. Declan Mulhall, Michael Knies, Llew Miller, and Maggie Parsons .



Eighteenth (Almost) Annual Mexico Study/Travel Tour
 3 weeks -- January 6 to January 26, 2016
 Price: approximately \$3800 per person, double occupancy
 For information, contact Dr. Ledford-Miller
Linda.ledford-miller@scranton.edu
 570-941-6160, O'Hara 317

HAPPENINGS AROUND THE DEPARTMENT

THE ARABIC CLUB IS BACK!



Dr. Habib Zanzana is happy to inform you of an exciting upcoming event. The Arabic language and cultures club "The Arabian Knights" has been in existence for two years. This club was created for and with students, faculty and the community in mind. It aims to provide opportunities for students, faculty and members of the community to attend events that inform about and promote Arab language and cultures at the University of Scranton. Our first event is Thursday October 15 at 6:30pm in Hyland 201. Please mark your calendar and plan to attend. You are also welcome to invite friends. I have attached a poster that you can send out to anyone who might be interested in learning about Arabic culture and or the Middle East.

Here is a brief summary of the event,

- 1) A short presentation on the historic and magnificent city of Alexandria, Egypt by our Fulbright Teaching Assistant Marwa Gaafer
- 2) Henna hand painting
- 3) Arabic music videos
- 4) Display of Arabic traditional costumes and dress. You will get to try on some of the clothes and take photos
- 5) You will watch a small demonstration of how Egyptians greet each other every day formally and informally. Feel free to join in to enliven the little skit.
- 6) Free Middle Eastern food such as Egyptian Kouchari, Algerian baklawa, hummus, Baba ghanoush, etc.

The entire event will be over by 7:30 or 7:45pm.

Please contact Dr. Habib Zanzana with any questions, el-habib.zanzana@scranton.edu

FROM OUR ALUMNI



Tyler Nye graduated from the University of Scranton in 2010 with majors in Sec. Ed., Classical Studies, and Hispanic Studies with a concentration in Latin American Studies. Since then, he has earned a Fulbright Scholarship to conduct research at the American School of Classical Studies at Athens. Most recently, Tyler's archaeological specialization has expanded into the field of underwater archaeology. He has joined diving teams off the coasts of Spain and Italy as they search for ancient shipwrecks and explore submerged Roman ports. He is currently pursuing a unique interdisciplinary M.A. in History and Archaeology of the Greek and Roman World at Cardiff University in Wales.



Heba Al-Nasser, Fulbright FLTA from Jordan for Arabic 2008-2009, went on for a Master's degree in Social Policy, NGOs, and Development at the London School of Economics and Social Science. She then won a scholarship to work at Chatham House, Noor Al Hussein Foundation and King Hussein Foundation, where she is researching the role of NGOs in Jordan.



Jordan West is an Italian major, Spanish and International Studies minor, 2015. He wrote of his current experience for The Ambassador.

“After graduation I decided to do a year of service and leadership with PULSE in Pittsburgh. The mission is to cultivate a community of young servant-leaders to transform the city by inviting recent grads to participate in a year of service and leadership. We have weekly professional seminars that allow us to become better acquainted with the city, our neighborhoods, and the people. I am serving at AJA-PO (Acculturation for Justice and Peace Outreach), which is a local refugee resettlement agency. I am in charge of an employment based program that helps refugees become self-sufficient within 180 days of being in the country. I help them find jobs, refer them to the appropriate social services and ensure a smooth transition in their cultural adjustment. Often times the families do not speak English very well, and speak languages like French, Arabic, or Nepali, which makes it a nice job to interact with people from diverse countries and cultures as well as opportunities to use and learn languages.”

THE UNIVERSITY OF
SCRANTON
 A JESUIT UNIVERSITY

THE AMBASSADOR

DEPARTMENT OF WORLD LANGUAGES AND CULTURES

Editor: Kelli Cali