



THE AMBASSADOR
The University of Scranton
Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures
301 O'Hara Hall, Scranton, PA 18510

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Faculty Advisors

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FACULTY ACTIVITIES

Joe Wilson, Professor of Classics, has returned to the department after spending his Spring 2003 semester sabbatical as a Fulbright scholar and visiting professor at the University of Gjirokaster in Gjirokaster, Albania. Joe visited archeological sites in southern and central Albania, including the remote site of Phoinike as well as more familiar sites, such as Appollonia, Butrinti, and Dodona. He taught medical Latin at the University of Gjirokaster and English composition at the local English center.

Joyce Hanks, Professor of French and Spanish, has returned to the University from her Spring 2003 semester sabbatical. In all, Joyce spent more than three months in France working on her bibliography of Jacques Ellul (1912-1994), a French historian, political scientist, sociologist, theologian, and professor of law, and a number of other projects. Joyce has already published several book-length bibliographies of Ellul and has another (probably two volumes) scheduled for publication in 2005. She has also begun a biography of Ellul, whom she knew and interviewed several times before his death. In addition, she will be the editor of a 2004 journal issue dedicated to Ellul, which she will also translate to English.

Virginia Picchetti, Associate Professor of Italian, is on a full year sabbatical for 2003-2004. She recently

published a book, Relational Spaces: Daughterhood, Motherhood, and Sisterhood in Dacia Maraini's Writings and Films and is currently working on a second book on Italian cinema during the sabbatical. In the Spring, her research will take her to the Scuola Nazionale del Cinema in Rome.

Linda Ledford-Miller, Professor of Spanish and Portuguese, received a National Endowment for the Humanities grant for Summer 2003 to attend a Seminar on Caribbean Theatre and Performance Seminar for five weeks at the Universidad de Puerto Rico in Río Piedras. She also presented a paper at a conference on Travel Literature at Morelia, Mexico.

Bob Parsons, Professor of Spanish, travels to the Universidad Interamericana in San Juan, Puerto Rico in late October and early November, 2003 to present a study of the recently deceased Guatemala satirist Augusto Monterroso at the annual conference of the Society for the Study of Luso-Hispanic Humor.

DEPARTMENT NEWS, INITIATIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The department is now in its third year in its new quarters in O'Hara Hall. Faculty and secretarial offices are a great improvement from the St. Thomas facilities, and the classrooms in Hyland, including two fully mediated classrooms, are bright and spacious. The new Language Learning Center is double the size of the old one in St. Thomas. In addition, the department has a small seminar room, the **Frank A. Cimini Seminar Room and Library**, for meetings and small classes, and a very nice conference room is also located on the third floor of O'Hara and is rarely used for anything other than departmental meetings and classes.

Bob Parsons recently stepped down as department chairperson after 14 years in that position, but will continue as a full-time faculty member. The new chairperson is **Linda Ledford-Miller**, who began a three year term at the beginning of the fall 2003 semester.

During the current (Fall 2003) semester the department is sponsoring, along with the Latin American Studies Concentration and the Jane Kopas Women's Center, **Films from the Hispanic World** as part of the Diversity Film Series. The schedule is as follows:

Wednesday, Sept. 10	"La lengua de las mariposas" (Spain)
Monday, Sept. 22	"Las cosas que dejé en la Habana" (Cuba/Spain)
Wednesday, Oct. 15	"Confesión a Laura" (Colombia)
Monday, Oct. 27	"Amores perros" (México)
Wednesday, Nov. 5	"Central Station" (Brazil)
Monday, Nov. 17	"Abre los ojos" (Spain)
Monday, Dec. 1	"Todo sobre mi madre" (Spain)

Bob Parsons received a Faculty Development Summer Grant in summer 2003 to develop a service learning course for third and fourth year Spanish students. The course, which is now going through the curricular approval process and will likely be offered for the first time in Fall 2004, will link students to the growing Hispanic community in the Scranton area through local service providing agencies. Students interested in volunteer or service learning opportunities before the course is offered should see Prof. Parsons.

The weekly Kaffeeklatsch German conversation group, organized by **Tom Kamla**, Professor of German, meets on Monday evenings at 5:00 p.m. in the Wolf's Den.

The department hosted its first social for faculty, majors, double majors and minors in the LLC on Thursday,

18 September, from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The social was a great success and a wonderful opportunity for students and faculty to get to know each other better. We plan on having one every semester.

Denis Zuvic, Adjunct Professor of Spanish, has continued her **AMIGOS** program into its second year. **AMIGOS** links University students with High School students who are recent immigrants to the US for a variety of fun activities. It is an excellent volunteer activity for UofS students, particularly for students of Spanish and Portuguese. The groups meet approximately every other Thursday evening. This semester's meetings are Sept. 18, Oct. 2, Oct. 16, Oct. 30, Nov. 13, Nov. 20, Dec. 4 and Dec. 11. All meetings begin in the McGurkin Hall Lobby and move to other locations.

The brand new **Italian Coffee Hour**, organized by **Marella Feltrin-Morris**, is held every Tuesday evening at 5:30 p.m. at the Northern Light Café.

The Department held its seventh annual "**Immersion Day**" for regional High School students on Wednesday, March 26, 2003. This activity, organized primarily by **Linda Ledford-Miller**, brings students to campus for a day of language learning related activities and serves also as a recruitment activity for the department and the University. This year 72 High School students participated in a variety of activities, including the performance of a one-act play by students in Bob Parsons' Span 422, Latin American Drama course in the Royal Theater.

NEW FACES

Welcome aboard!! First to Prof. **Marella Feltrin-Morris** who is replacing **Virginia Picchietti** during her sabbatical year and is now in the final stages of completing her PhD in Comparative Literature at Binghamton University. The new TAs (here for one year under the sponsorship of the Institute of International Education, a division of the UN in New York) are **Sebastien Moulin** (French TA) and **Aracely Hernández** (Mexican TA). **Rie Kubo** is a new GA (degree seeking graduate students with a teaching assistantship from the University of Scranton who are normally here for 2 to 3 years). **Marta Peinado Martín**, a graduate student from Spain, is a new part-time instructor. Denise Zuvic joined us last year as a part-time Spanish instructor and has returned this fall.

Here is what the new TAs and Gas (and in the case of Marta, part-time teachers) have to say about themselves!

Rie Kubo – I'm from Kyoto, an old capital city of Japan (1.5 million population). The culture and the traditions established when it was an ancient city still remain. Many people visit Kyoto to enjoy Japanese culture. Historical sites such as castles, temples, and gardens remain as they used to be and still give the same impression. I hope you would visit the city when you have a chance to come to Japan.

I'm majoring in Reading Education here. I majored in English and communication in undergraduate. I was in the University of Iowa as an exchange student before. Since it was a nice experience for me, I decided to come back to the U.S. for my masters. I'm happy to be teaching and studying here.

Aracely Hernández – I am from the city of Oaxaca, Mexico. Oaxaca, the state capital, declared Humanity's Cultural Patrimony by UNESCO, owes its fame to the beauty and harmony of its architecture, the richness of its cultural traditions, the wide variety of its typical foods, and its soft, temperate climate, spring-like throughout the year.

I majored in Education (BA, the Teaching of English as a Foreign Language) at the Language Center of the Universidad "Benito Juárez" of Oaxaca. Two years ago I started my teaching experience as a Spanish and

English teacher at the University "Benito Juárez" of Oaxaca. Currently I am a TA in the Foreign Language Department at the University of Scranton. I am also taking graduate classes in Education.

Sebastien Moulin -- My name is Sebastien Moulin, I am the French TA for this academic year. As a student, I take Japanese, and I really enjoy this class as I have wanted to learn this language for years. I must say I have been really pleased by everyone's warm welcome when I arrived. I confess I was expecting some resentment because of my nationality and the recent events between my country and the US but I was definitely wrong. So far, I really appreciate my year in Scranton and I am already worried about my departure in June. However, before leaving, I plan on visiting NY and Philadelphia, and if possible, I would also like to see the Grand Canyon.

Marta Peinado Martín -- My name is Marta. I am from Sevilla, a wonderful city in Andalucia, in the south of Spain. I came to the University of Scranton in February to start my masters program in Human Resources. This semester I am also teaching Spanish on the elementary level. It really interests me to learn about the culture here in the United States; however, I still love to talk about my country, to educate people about the culture there, and to show them how much fun we have in my wonderful Spain.

FAMILIAR FACES IN NEW PLACES

Juan Pablo Gil, who replaced Linda Ledford-Miller during her Fulbright year in Mozambique in 2001-2002, began his PhD work in Spanish literature at the University of Chicago last year. His spouse, **Kim Borchert**, who taught part-time here during 2001-2002, also decided to begin work on her PhD studies in Spanish literature at the University of Chicago and started in January of this year.

Virginie Le Francois, last year's French TA, was accepted into the graduate program in French at West Virginia University with a graduate assistantship that provided full tuition remission and a stipend to cover living expenses. Unfortunately, Virginie had some visa problems and was forced to postpone the beginning of her graduate studies until fall 2004. She plans to remain in France this year and finish her Masters thesis.

Catalina Méndez Vallejo, last year's Spanish TA, began her graduate studies in Linguistics at the Indiana University, Bloomington, IN after a summer visit to her home in Bucaramanga, Colombia. Catalina has a full graduate assistantship.

Congratulations to **Maggie Martínez** (Mexican GA), who completed her Masters degree in Counseling in May 2003 and has begun a second Masters in Education, all here at the University of Scranton! Maggie was originally a TA and is now going for the record (still held by **Luki Cuauhtli-López**) for the TA who ended up spending the most time in Scranton.

FOREIGN STUDY PROGRAMS

Njegos Petrovic, Professor of French, is again leading a visit to Greece during the Spring Semester break from Saturday March 13 to Sunday March 21, 2004, along with Prof. **John Kallianiotis** from the Kania School of Management. Student travel participants may earn three academic credits during the Spring Semester 2004 by registering for Greek 295. Alumni and other non-students are welcome as well. The price, \$1,795.00 US, is the same for those who take it for credit and those who do not. Deposits of \$495 are due immediately.

Bob Parsons ran the Sixth Annual January Intersession Study/Travel Tour to Guadalajara, Mexico in January, 2003 with Prof. **Bob Kocis** of the Political Science department. This is a three week trip in which students live with Mexican families and take courses at the Universidad del Valle de Atemajac (UNIVA). A weekend trip to Mexico City was included in the January 2003 trip for the first time, and student response was very positive. The Seventh Annual January 2004 trip is currently in the planning stages and Prof. Parsons notes that the initial student interest level is very high. This year for the first time students will have the option of doing service learning projects in Guadalajara at a variety of sites that include orphanages and centers for disabled children.

NEWS FROM OUR ALUMNI

Elliott Gougeon (German, 2003) is spending the 2003-2004 academic year as a Fulbright Teaching Assistant in Germany where he will be teaching English in a German High School in the city of Kaiserslautern.

Kisha Culver (German, 2003) is now an Air Force Second Lieutenant stationed at Maxwell Airforce Base in Alabama.

Kristy Petty (IB/Spanish, 02) began her Fulbright to Argentina in January 2003.

Stephanie Longo (Italian/French, 2003) began work on her PhD in Italian literature at Rutgers University. She was awarded a Graduate Assistantship that includes tuition remission and a stipend for teaching.

Stephanie and Elliott were joint recipients of our department's **Joseph Brunner Prize for Excellence in Foreign Languages** on Awards Night in Spring 2003.

Jasmin Rivera (ILB/Spanish, 2003), the student supervisor of the Language Learning Center for the past two years, graduated in May. Congratulations and best wishes to Jasmin in her future endeavors and many thanks to her for her years of service to the department! Jasmin has been replaced by **Cristina Alonso**.

Anju Kaduvettoor (Human Services/Spanish, 2003) has been accepted into the doctoral program in Counseling Psychology at Lehigh University.

Ben Ford (Management/Spanish, 2003) and **Erin Ewald** (IB/Spanish, 2003) have begun their graduate studies toward an MBA at Foro Europeo in Pamplona, Spain.

Rebecca Petrini (IB/Spanish, 2001) has been working full-time for the past year as a translator, interpreter and facilitator for the growing local Hispanic community through the Scranton Lackawanna Human Development Agency. Rebecca was accepted with full tuition remission and a generous stipend as a graduate assistant in Latin American Studies at American University, to begin fall 2003.

Deirdre Lynn (Biology/Spanish, 2003) was accepted into the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine for fall 2003.

Loni Lukatch (Spanish, 2002) is working on her Masters degree in education at Bloomsburg State University. Expected graduation date is December 2003.

Kristen Knabel (Secondary Ed/Spanish, 2002) is teaching Spanish at the High School level at Cherry Hill, NJ.

Eric Mosblech (German/Spanish, 2002) recently accepted a job with Rural Opportunities, Inc., which is

affiliated with Americorps, in Long Island, NY. Eric will be working with the Hispanic immigrant community, giving ESL classes on site (he recently earned his CTEFL certificate) and doing translations and informal interpretation.

Dee-Ann Martell (Spanish/Communication, 2001, MA Education, 02), is teaching social studies and Spanish full-time to 5th through 8th graders at St. Joseph's Yorkville in Manhattan, NY.

Deborah Corson (Physical Therapy/Spanish, 1997) has been traveling to Mexico to do volunteer work in Physical Therapy every year since her participation in the first annual Guadalajara, Mexico trip. This year she decided to change careers and was accepted into Medical School at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where she began classes this fall.

Eileen Berkowitz (ILB/Spanish, 1999) completed her masters in TESOL at Rutgers and spent one year teaching in a high school. Since October 2002 she has been in the Czech Republic teaching conversational English to MBA candidates.

Adriane Franco (Communications/Spanish, 2001) is working as a special education classroom teacher for 3rd, 4th and 5th graders diagnosed with severe emotional disturbances in a Bronx public school for children with special needs. She has also been taking graduate level courses while teaching and will be certified as a NYC Jr. High School Spanish teacher at the end of this school year.

Chris Geradritis (Classics, 02) successfully completed his first year of PhD work at SUNY Buffalo.

Nick Lazar (Spanish, 01) completed his MA in Spanish language and culture at Syracuse University

John Ottey (Classics, 00) is continuing his doctoral work in Classics at the University of Pittsburgh.

Christopher Warren (Spanish, 99, Fulbright 99-00) completed his first year of a two year assignment with Teach for America in Houston, Texas, where he has also begun work toward a Master's degree in Education.

Kevin Bisignani (Biology/German, 97, Fulbright 97-98) completed his Master's degree in Education at the University of Scranton in Spring 2001 and is now teaching German full-time at Emmaus High School in the Allentown area.

Sarah Martin (Spanish, 2003) began her graduate studies toward the Ph.D. in Latin American Studies at the University of Kansas in fall 2003 with a Graduate Assistantship to teach Spanish. In summer 2003 she participated in the First Annual Portuguese Immersion Program at Middlebury College in Vermont, along with **Leslie Angleró**, a current senior and Spanish major at the UofS.

Carlos Garrido (ILB/Spanish, 2003) has accepted a job working with Whitman Mortgage at a new branch office in the Bronx. Carlos, who is from a Portuguese speaking family and studied both Portuguese and Spanish here at the UofS, was hired specifically because he'll be able to assist Latino clients in their native languages

Geraldine Mulcahy (International Studies/Spanish, 2003) was accepted into the International Jesuit Volunteer Corps and is now in Nepal, where she will spend the next two years. Geraldine was also the 2003 winner of the University's Alumni Service Award.

Carolyn Manley (Spanish, 1997) finished Law School at Temple University this year. She took the bar exam

this summer and plans to work in her family's law firm here in Scranton.

Alumni – If our information is out of date, or if you know of the activities of other alumni that we haven't included here, please let us know. You can write to Bob Parsons at parsonsr1@scranton.edu or Habib Zanzana at zanzanah1@scranton.edu.

Language and IL/B Majors Studying Abroad

2002-2003

Leandra Barbuti, Guadalajara, Mexico, Universidad del Valle de Atemajac (UNIVA). Full academic year.

Lauren E. Brush, Fundación José Ortega y Gasset, Toledo, Spain. Full academic year.

Rachel Marascalco, Universidad Internacional (CBMS), Cuernavaca, Mexico. Intersession only, but Rachel spent the full academic year of 2001-2002 in the Casa de la Solidaridad, in San Salvador, El Salvador (Fall) and at UNIVA in Guadalajara, Mexico (Spring).

Theresa Martin, Universidad de Granada, Spain. Spring semester.

Susan Reeve, Universidad de Granada, Spain. Spring semester.

Sara Gausz, Universidad de Costa Rica, San José, CR. Spring semester.

Lucie M. Iuzzolino, Universidad Nacional de Cuyo, Mendoza, Argentina. Full academic year (Spring 2002/Fall 2002).

2003-2004

George Griffin, direct enrollment in the Rheinische Friedrich Wilhelms Universität in Bonn Germany. Full academic year.

Maya Fridman, Universidad de Barcelona, Spain. Full academic year.

Tracy Granozio, Universidad de Valencia, Spain. Fall semester.

Laurie Horne, Alma College program in Marbella, Spain. Summer 2003.

Thomas Lavelle, Universidad de Salamanca, Spain. Full academic year.