Congratulations to two members of the Department of Modern Languages, who were awarded Fulbright Scholarships for the Year 2006-2007. Dr. Kimberly Contag has been selected as a Fulbright Scholar to Ecuador. She will be conducting research on Fantasy and Realism in Ecuadorian Literature since 1975 while on sabbatical in Cuenca, Ecuador.

Graduate Student Melissa Siebke (BA Spanish and French, MS Spanish 2005 and current MAT-Spanish graduate student) will be a Fulbright scholar in Spain. She will be an English Teaching Assistant in a Madrid elementary or high school. Congratulations to you both and enjoy Ecuador and Spain respectively!!

Student Recipients of the Departmental Scholarship Awards

James Livermont, a graduate student in the MA French program, was awarded a Waldorf Scholarship for his academic excellence and many diverse service activities to the Modern Language Department and the MSU student community.

Molly Malone, an undergraduate student in Spanish, was awarded a Waldorf Scholarship for her academic excellence and active participation in the Spanish Club and participation in the Don Quixote conference (Fall 05).

Mary Pyka, an undergraduate student in Spanish, was awarded the Sponberg Scholarship in Modern Languages for her academic excellence and community work with Hispanics in St. Paul, MN.

Congratulations to the three scholarship recipients!

Film Series

Spanish Film Night: Special thanks to Silvia Roca-Martinez for organizing Spanish Film night on alternate Wednesdays throughout the academic year. Spanish Film night has allowed interested students and faculty to view a broad range of films in Spanish and to engage in lively discussion about the diverse topics that are presented in these new films.

German Film Night: Special thanks to Brett Frayseth for organizing German Film night on alternating Wednesdays throughout the second half of Spring semester. German Film Night allowed interested students and faculty to view and discuss a variety of popular and less known German films, thus sharpening their German listening skills and enriching their cultural understanding of the German speaking countries and making new friends who share similar interests.
Código a juego // Code for game by Rosalva Ulloa
(graduate student in Dr. Torner’s Spanish class)

A juego tú codificaste tu mensaje
y estaban los helechos más altos que un pinar,
las rosas abiertas al celaje
y el musgo como alfombra a mi me hacía soñar.

A fuego yo interpreté ese mensaje
rendido al vasallaje,
absorto en mi interior
oyendo los ruidos de un salvaje
y minúsculo hormiguero haciendo su labor.

Un sapo atrapaba a los zancudos
y cierta mariposa libaba con placer;
en tanto, una larva con menudos pasos
sobre mi brazo me hacía condescender,
a no movilizar músculo alguno,
mientras el sol bañaba
tu rostro que me hablaba con un lenguaje mudo,
el cual yo interpretaba
según mi parecer...

Y es que adherido a la tierra viendo al frente
que tú te proyectabas hacia lo sideral,
preciso, quizá muy elocuente
mi pensamiento quiso verte más ideal.

In a game you codify your message
and the ferns were taller than the pine tree,
the roses opened to the skylight
and the moss like a carpet would make me dream.

Like fire I interpreted that message
surrendered to the vassalage,
absorbed in my inner being
listening to the noises of a wild
and minuscule ant’s colony doing their job.

A toad caught the mosquitoes,
certain butterfly sucked with pleasure;
while a larva with tiny
steps over my arm would make me comply
not to move any muscle,
while the sun covered
your face that would talk to me
with a mute language,
that I was interpreting
according to my judgment...

And it is attached to the earth, looking forward,
That I saw you projecting toward the sidereal,
accurately, maybe very eloquently; and then
my judgment wanted to see you more ideal.

MSU will host the 40th Anniversary Conference of the North Central Council of Latin Americanists November 2-4, 2006

The theme of the conference is: 1966-2006: Four Decades of Art, Culture, and Society in Latin America. The NCCLA is a professional organization dedicated to the study Latin America from the perspectives of all academic disciplines. Issues relative to the important and growing Latino population in the US are also included in the focus of the NCCLA.

Dr. Karl Heise, local conference organizer, has been a member of the organization for nearly 30 years. Dr. Enrique Torner is a recent member, and is sharing the responsibilities of preparation for the conference with him. Since 2006 marks a milestone for the NCCLA, it is especially prestigious for MSU to host the conference this year.

The NCCLA welcomes both undergraduate and graduate students as members of the organization and as presenters in the conference. If you would like to become a member, please contact Dr. Heise for details and an application form. His office is 218-M Armstrong Hall. Telephone (507) 389-5528. Email: karl.heise@mnsu.edu.
NCCLA invites proposals for panels, round tables, and papers from all disciplines that address the conference theme. Interdisciplinary and comparative analyses are most welcome. Proposals may focus on any region and may be written in English, Spanish or Portuguese. Teaching panels concerning pedagogical strategies, teaching and learning methods, and in-class or long distance innovative approaches are especially invited.

The conference will feature a variety of special events in honor of NCCLA’s 40th anniversary including a keynote address by Dr. Roderick Al Camp (Claremont McKenna College).

Some suggested topics:

- The Latin American Literary “Boom” and its Legacy
- Democratization and Neo-Liberalism
- Reflections of Latin America in Contemporary Cinema
- Mobilizing the People: Social Movements, Liberation Theology, and Evangelicals
- Cultural Studies and its Contribution
- The Pursuit of Justice: Dirty Wars, Human Rights and Truth Commissions
- From Che to Presidents “Lula” and Evo: The Transformations of the Latin American Left
- Indigenous and Afro-Latin American Organizations

Proposals (250-300 word abstracts) must be submitted by July 15, 2006. Please enclose a cover sheet stating professional affiliation, address, telephone number, and e-mail address of each participant. Please also state need for audiovisual support. E-mail submissions are encouraged.

Graduate and advanced undergraduate students are encouraged to participate. Up to six student travel grants of up to $150 each are available. Grants are for full-time students who are not professionally employed. An application can be found at http://www.uwm.edu/Dept/CLACS/nccla/awards.html.

Conference presenters are eligible for NCCLA Research and Teaching Awards (see following).

Send abstracts and proposals to:
Seth Meisel, NCCLA Program Chair 2006
Department of History
University of Wisconsin-Whitewater
Whitewater, WI 53910
262.472.5149 PH / 262.472.1372 FAX
meisels@uww.edu
http://www.uwm.edu/Dept/CLACS/nccla/index.html
NCCLA Research and Teaching Awards

In order to promote good scholarship and to recognize the accomplishments of our members, the Executive Committee of the NCCLA voted in 1984 to institute a program of annual cash awards for work in three areas of scholarship. The amounts of these awards are subject to annual approval by the Executive Committee; it is expected that prizes will be awarded every year in all categories where materials have been submitted for presentation at the conference except when compelling reasons can be shown for not doing so. Only conference participants are eligible to submit materials for consideration.

Every effort will be made by the Awards Committee to announce the winners of awards at the annual meeting. Those individuals who want their work considered should submit it to the Awards Committee (via the Program Chair) by October 1, 2006 as an email (Word) attachment.

The following awards are available:

The Raquel Kersten Professional Research Award
A $150 award may be given for a research work dealing with Latin American Studies in any relevant academic area. Papers will be judged first, as to their contribution to new knowledge of Latin America, secondly, on the thoroughness and appropriateness of research and methodology, and thirdly, on the style or form of presentation. Papers may be submitted in English, Spanish, or Portuguese and must be unpublished when submitted.

Professional Teaching Award
A $150 award may be given for an effort in the field of teaching Latin American Studies. This effort can entail the development of audio-visual materials, curriculum materials, theoretical or practical papers, or any other project designed to improve the teaching of Latin American Studies. Projects may be directed towards the primary, secondary or university level, or for the education of the general public.

Student Research Award
A $150 award may be given to a research paper submitted by a student currently enrolled at an institution of higher education. Papers will be judged on the same basis as the professional research awards.

Language Club News

German Club is the heart of the German program, where students interact with each other beyond classrooms and skills’ levels, enjoy each others company over food and drink while conversing in German (or English at times), watching German films, bowling and pizza nights, selling pretzels and cheese, participating in Adopt-A-Highway, or on a field trip to New Ulm.

Every Tuesday from 5 – 6:30 PM German students from first year to upper division students, including Evelyn Meyer (German faculty member), meet off-campus in the loft of the Hub Café to practice German and to unwind after a long day on campus. Everyone who wants to practice and is enthusiastic about German is welcome to attend!

The students in German Club also organized two successful Pretzel sale fundraisers, to help fund their field trip to New Ulm, MN to explore that community’s German heritage some more. The field trip is taking place on April 15, 2006. Earlier in April, students met to clean our 2-mile stretch of MN Hwy. 60 outside of Madison Lake, participating in the Adopt-A-Highway community service program. These are just some highlights of the many “official” activities of the German Club and its members, who often gather and meet in private, socializing, supporting each other in study groups, or simply having fun! I really am going to miss you guys!!!! — Evelyn Meyer
News from the French Club
The French Club had a movie night on February 16 and its annual "Dîner de Gala" on April 2. More than twenty people enjoyed "hors-d'œuvre," "salade verte," "soupe à l'oignon," "quiche" and "crêpes."

This spring, Carle Sauter, Tim Kirk and Nicole Johannson will be initiated into the French honor society, Pi Delta Phi. Congratulations to you three!
— John J. Janc

News from the Danish Program

Courses for the Fall
We will offer Norwegian both for beginners and for intermediate students (SCAN 101 and SCAN 292). Swedish for intermediate students (SCAN 294) will also continue in the fall.

And we are excited to offer another topics class: "Scandinavia! An Introduction", in which we will cover a wide range of topics from the volcanoes and glaciers of Iceland to modern Danish design. Everyone is welcome! (SCAN 299)

Studying in Scandinavia
Two new exchange programs were ratified this semester, and three students are already studying abroad this fall: Pat Hogen, a Regional and Urban Studies major, will study in Telemarken/ Norway for a year; Ben Hedlund, an Economics major, and Drew Schone, a major in Political Sciences, will spend the fall semester in Halmstad, Sweden. We wish them well, and are looking forward to their return.

If you are interested in studying Scandinavian Studies, Philosophy, International Business, or any other major in Norway, Sweden, or Finland, please contact Maria-Claudia.Tomany@mnsu.edu, (507) 389 2917.

Student News
The following students have successfully completed the requirements for the German major: Bridget Heussler, Jerome Schmidt and Andrew Thompson; and for the German minor: Sara Roedder and Jennifer Timmerman. Congratulations and best wishes as you finish up your university studies and move on into your careers or into graduate programs!

This summer, Melissa Siebke will be working for the Concordia Language Villages' Spanish Credit Abroad program where we take approximately 30 high school students from the U.S. to Spain to experience its culture and language. We will be in Madrid and Santiago de Compostela for one month.

Current MS Spanish graduate student research: Maria White’s research focuses on Ecuadorian writer Edna Iturralde’s books for children. These books focus on identity (race and ethnicity). Felicia Hamlin is conducting research on the poetry of Ecuadorian poet Sara Vanegas. Nate Maddux is working on Ecuadorian author César Dávila's poetry and short story. Shirley Nieto is conducting research on Madness and Magical Realism in the short fiction of Julio Cortazar. Nikki Snyder-Roberts is conducting research on how to improve teaching reading in the second language classroom (Spanish in the High School Setting).

Alumni. Alrick Knight, M.S. Spanish from Minnesota State University and a past TA in Spanish, completed his Ph.D. at the University of Minnesota this year. We wish him well as he moves to his first job as an Assistant Professor of Spanish! Adolfo Carrillo, MA TESL and past Spanish TA in our department, will be heading off to a doctoral program next fall. Adolfo has been teaching Spanish at Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter since he graduated from MSU.
During recent years increasing numbers of MSU students have taken advantage of our Spanish Study Abroad options in Mexico, Spain, Ecuador and Costa Rica during the summer and fall, as well as during the spring.

30 years ago, I joined the Spanish program at MSU. Part of my duties since then have been to accompany a group of MSU students to Mexico, first during the Winter Quarter and more recently during the Spring Semester. With the efficiency of electronic communication, it became possible to expand my duties to include the coordination of studies for MSU students in Spain and Ecuador, and more recently in Costa Rica. Our students can earn MSU credits in Guadalajara and in Guanajuato Mexico, in Madrid, Salamanca, Alicante, or El Puerto de Santa María in Spain, in Cuenca, Ecuador, and in Coronado, Costa Rica (near San José). I have visited every school and am acquainted with their personnel. All are excellent places to study, each with its own special appeal.

It is of critical importance that the credits MSU students earn coordinate well with our requirements for the Spanish major and minor. Since they are MSU credits, transfer is not an issue.

The current Spring Semester 2006 marks the final time that I will be with a group of students in Guadalajara, Mexico. Now that our students have the opportunity to study in eight cities and in four countries, my focus will be the coordination of Spanish Study Abroad during the spring, summer and fall. However, I (and possibly some of my colleagues) will periodically visit the places where our students study. Of course, Guadalajara will continue to be a destination for many.

Be alert for announcements for meetings relative to Spanish Study Abroad. Also, you may obtain information from me. Stop by my office (218-M Armstrong; tele. (507) 389-5528). My e-mail is karl.heise@mnsu.edu.
Faculty News

The Spanish Program welcomes Dr. Greg Taylor to its faculty. Dr. Taylor will be teaching the Elementary and Secondary Methods for teaching Modern Language next year, as well as Hispanic Linguistics and Spanish language courses. Congratulations and welcome to the Department of Modern Languages at MSU!

Dr. Karl Heise will be participating in the IV Congreso Internacional de la Asociación Hispánica de Humanidades in Madrid June 25-27. He has organized and will chair a Round Table discussion: "Programs de Estudio de Español en el Extranjero."

June 28-July 2, he will participate in the 88th. meeting of the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese in Salamanca. As part of his activities at that meeting, he will participate in a workshop: "Developing Intercultural Competence: Prepare Students for Study Abroad."

Dr. John J. Janc attended the Central States Conference in Chicago on March 9-11. He gave a presentation entitled "Organizing a Trip Abroad."

His article "Reflections of a Study Abroad Director" was published in the 2006 issue of the Central States Conference on the Teaching of Foreign Languages.

Dr. Evelyn Meyer submitted an article entitled "The German Tradition: (Mis)Readings of Don Quixote" which is forthcoming in the published conference proceedings for "Don Quixote Across the Disciplines: Unraveling Myth(s) Conference" edited by Dr. Kimberly Contag and Dr. Jim Grabowska. Furthermore, she wrote a book review of Ulrich von Zatzikhoven Lanzelet. Transl. Thomas Kerth with additional notes by Kenneth G.T. Webster and Roger Sherman Loomis (Columbia UP, 2005), which is forthcoming in Medieval Encounters: Jewish, Christian, and Muslim Culture in Confluence and Dialogue published by Brill.

In November 2005, Dr. Meyer joined an international team of scholars working on an electronic Middle High German project at the Kompetenzzentrum für elektronische Erschließungs- und Publikationsverfahren in den Geisteswissenschaften, Universität Trier. As part of this project, she is currently working on a transcription of manuscript A (Cod. Pal. germ. 397, Universitätsbibliothek Heidelberg) of Hartmann von Aues Iwein. This transcription is forthcoming online at: http://www.fgcu.edu/rboggs/hartmann/HvAMain/HvAHome.htm & http://germazope.uni-trier.de/Projects/HSS/iwein/handschriften.

Dr. Meyer presented "Iwein: A Salvaged Career" in dialogue with Dr. Maria-Claudia Tomany’s "Hrafnkel’s Comeback as a Self-Made Man" at the Medieval Research Group in Minneapolis, MN on January 27, 2006 & at the Arizona Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies Conference in Tempe, AZ on February 17, 2006. On February 9, 2006 she presented an invited guest lecture in the Department of Modern and Classical Languages & the Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies at Saint Louis University. Her presentation was entitled "Trouble on the Home Front: Acting Your Gender (Or Not) in Hartmann von Aue’s Iwein."

Dr. Meyer accepted a position as Assistant Professor of German at Saint Louis University beginning Fall Semester 2006. She is looking forward to the opportunities this position provides her with in the Department of Modern and Classical Languages and the Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies. She wishes to thank her colleagues here in Modern Languages at MSU for the many learning opportunities she had and hopes that the department will be able to find an adequate person to take over the German program. Most of all she would like to thank the students in the German program who have given her so much and who have made this job truly enjoyable and rewarding for her. She would also like to thank her German Teaching Assistant, Brett Frayseh, for his energy and collegiality that he has brought to their collaborative work this academic year. It was truly a pleasure working with him and she has learned a lot from him! She will miss you all!
Faculty News, continued

Silvia Roca-Martinez married Adam Carlson on March 11, 2006. Congratulations to you both and may you find great happiness with each other!

Dr. Maria-Claudia Tomany presented a paper on the question of social mobility in the Old Norse Hrafnkels saga at the Arizona Medieval and Renaissance Studies Conference on February 15, 2006 in Tempe, AZ. In the beginning of May, she is planning to deliver a paper on contemporary criticism of the pastoral genre at the end of the 18th century in Sweden, in a session on 18th century literature at the annual conference of the Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Studies, May 4-8, 2006, in Oxford, MS.

In January, Dr. Tomany showed slides and talked about the “travelogues” of John Stoddard's journey through Norway in 1879 at the monthly meeting of the Elvesvingen Lodge of the Sons of Norway in Mankato. In April, she spoke about Greta Garbo and showed some clips from her greatest Hollywood successes, both silent and “talkies”, in the monthly meeting of the Swedish Society.

In the summer, Dr. Tomany plans to spend some time in Sweden and Norway, participating in a language course, visiting our new exchange partners in Halmstad and Telemarken, buying books and drinking coffee.

Dr. Enrique Torner published an article entitled "Translating for the Publishing Field" the "ATA (American Translators Association) Chronicle" in their January 2006 issue.

A multi-author book entitled “La tierra: Historia de Benalup-Casas Viejas en el siglo XX a través de la fotografía” was just published by IES Casas Viejas, in Cádiz, Spain (2006). Besides including an original article of his on Jerome Mintz, there are many articles by Mintz which proceed from the two books I translated for him from English into Spanish. The last one of them, "Carnival Song and Society", translated as “Las canciones de carnaval y la sociedad gaditana”, has not been published yet, but they were able to use it and include many segments because he emailed them his translation. In emailed words and in the book, the book coordinators have committed themselves to publish his translation next year, when they will organize an exhibition devoted to Jerome Mintz. This anthropologist’s scholarly contributions are indispensable to a good understanding of the history and culture of, not only Benalup-Casas Viejas (where the Spanish Civil War started), but to that of Andalusia and Spain in general. In sum, his contribution to this book is quite significant. Even on the personal side, the main coordinator of the book contacted him by e-mail to find out if he could help him find and contact the family of Jerome Mintz, who had died of leukemia in November of 1997. He was able to do that, and also to provide the coordinator with some photographs of Mintz and his family to be included in the book. Mintz and Dr. Torner had worked together when he was a doctorate student at Indiana University, where Mintz was an emeritus professor of anthropology at that time.


Congratulations to each and everyone for their many scholarly, professional and personal accomplishments, here mentioned or not! As Spring Semester comes to a rapid end, the only things left for me to say are “Hang in there, and enjoy your summer break, which is just around the corner!” and of course “Good Bye and thank you to you all!” — Evelyn Meyer