



Summer in Madrid

UWM Summer in Madrid Study Abroad Program

During the Summer of 2002, visiting Associate Professor Dennis Seager lead a group of eight students, seven from UWM and one from UW-Madison to Madrid, Spain for a five week intensive language program. The group departed from Chicago on June 30 and returned on August 1.

While in Madrid students took an intensive language class through the Universidad Complutense de Madrid. UWM students became international students while in Spain where they took classes along with students from all over the world. According to Victor González, the Director of ACCENT-Madrid which organized the program, "UWM students were better prepared academically and more mature" than any of the other students participating in ACCENT-organized programs.

In addition to their five hours a day of class, participants took advantage of some of the many cultural activities available in Madrid, one of Europe's most exciting capitals. One evening everybody got dressed up and went to a "Zarzuela", a typical Spanish comic opera. Another night, students enjoyed dinner before marveling at a spectacular Flamenco performance. On weekends there were excursions to Avila, made famous by Santa Teresa; Segovia, to see the famous aqueduct built by the Romans; and to the Escorial, the sum-



Aqueduct

mer palace of Spanish kings. On the final weekend, many of the students had an adventure on the beaches of Ali-

cante on the Mediterranean. On returning to Madrid, Lisa Schwane proclaimed, "That was the perfect way to end a program like this."

Before the summer program was over, at least one of the participants was making plans to return to Madrid for a longer term of study. Others were trying to figure out ways to incorporate more courses in Spanish into their programs of study back at UWM.

Already, the Office of Overseas Programs and Partnerships of the Center for International Education, in conjunction with the Dept. of Spanish & Portuguese, is making plans for another UWM Summer in Madrid Program for the summer of 2003.

Margaret Crosby Chillin' in Chile



Margaret Crosby

During Spring 2001, Margaret Crosby directed the Chile Study Program in Santiago. While in Chile she traveled to Chiloé in the south and with the group to Isla Negra, the seaside home of Pablo Neruda. The group also went to Pomaire, a small town outside the capital where black pottery is made. They experienced the Concha y Toro winery and visited Villa Grimaldi, a former detention and torture site during the Pinochet dictatorship. On her own, Mar-

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Margaret Crosby Chillin' in Chile (Continued from page 1)

garet traveled to southern Chile, Buenos Aires, Montevideo and Machu Picchu.



Margaret presented a paper, "Illness and Creativity in the Diary of Frida Kahlo, an Illustrated Autopathography," at the XII International Conference of the

Asociación de Literatura Femenina Hispánica in Lexington, KY in September. In November, she presented a longer version of the paper along with slides from Kahlo's diary at the department's First Faculty Colloquium.

While in Chile, Margaret saw many plays and thus developed an interest in Latin American theater. This semester she shared this interest with her Spanish 350 and 353 students. They saw three plays: Eugene Ionesco's "Rhinceros," Victor Hugo Rascón Banda's, "La mujer que cayó del cielo" at Carroll College, and Antonio Skármeta's, "Burning Patience" at the United Community Center. At the latter two plays, the students met and chatted with the

directors and the actors. Currently Margaret is working on a book on Illness, Creativity and the Body in Latin American Autobiographies. She founded Club Hispánico, a social club for people interested in Hispanic cultures, and she is the current Faculty Advisor for Sigma Delta Pi, the Spanish honor society.



Bryan Kennedy, Visiting Assistant Professor of Portuguese



Bryan Kennedy

Bryan Kennedy joined us last year as a visiting Assistant Professor of Portuguese. He is responsible for the grammar classes and building up the Portuguese language program. He comes to us from the University of North

Carolina where he taught both Portuguese and Spanish. His research is in modern Brazilian prose and poetry, specifically racial and economic discrimination as seen through literature. He is currently working with a group of women writers from the "favelas" (shantytowns) in Rio de Janeiro. He is compiling an anthology of their literature and writing a critical analysis from a socio-anthropological perspective. He is also in the initial

stages of authoring a Portuguese language textbook.



John McCaw

John McCaw joined the Department last year. He got his PhD from Princeton in 1994, and taught at Princeton, Ohio State U, SUNY-Buffalo, and the University of Montevallo before coming to UWM. His area of specialization is 16th- and 17th-Century Spanish and Spanish- American literature and culture. His research interests include Spanish Golden Age poetry, Baroque culture, and pastoral literature.

John has published articles and presented papers on a variety of Early Modern Spanish authors and topics, and his book "The Transforming Text: A Study of Luis de Góngora's Soledades" was published in 2000. John is currently working on an edition of *El burlador de Sevilla* by Tirso de Molina. He is also doing research on Renaissance pastoral as well as on the relationship between courtly love,

ritual, and violence. In October of 2001, John gave a paper at the Fifth Biennial Conference of the Society for Renaissance and Baroque Hispanic Poetry, held at Ohio State University in Columbus, OH. The title of his talk was "The Symbolic Sacrifice: Convention and Courtly Love in Garcilaso, Montemayor, and Góngora."

In November of 2001, John gave papers

Continued from Page 2 (John McCaw)

at the conference of the Group for Early Modern Cultural Studies, held in Philadelphia, PA. The title of his talk was "Interior Decorating: Conquest, Control, and the Struggle for Self in Early Modern Spanish Culture." John is the coordinator for Conexiones Entre Maestros y Profesores de Español (CEMPE). John also chaired a panel at a conference in Philadelphia. In addition John is also the current Faculty Advisor for Club Hispanico

John teaches Spanish 305 (Advanced Grammar), Spanish 407 (Golden Age Drama), Spanish 363 (Latin American Culture), and Spanish 365 (Deviance, Difference, and Otherness in Hispanic Culture). This last course is new to the Department.

Dennis Seager



Dennis Seager

Dennis Seager joined the department last year as a Visiting Associate Professor of Spanish. In addition to teaching courses in Latin American literature, and a seminar on Caribbean literature for FICL, he has been serving as Graduate Advisor while Prof. Rodríguez-Luis is on Leave of Absence. Dennis has been teaching Spanish and Latin American literature at Oklahoma State University. His research interest lies in 20th century Latin American narrative and he just completed an article called "Jeremy

Bentham, Utopia, Paradise, and Costa Rica" which will be published in a forthcoming issue of The Quarterly Journal of Ideology. Other recent work includes Otros Roques: La Poética Múltiple de Roque Dalton, a collection of essays about the Salvadoran poet, co-edited by Rafael Lara-Martínez and "El crítico y el hilo dorado" an Introduction to Intertextualidad, Surrealismo y Literaturización: Jorge Luis Borges, Octavio Paz, Camacho Ramírez, Jorge E. Pardo, Flor Romero - y la leyenda fáustica latinoamericana by Ollie O. Oviedo. A long-term book project is tentatively entitled, The Discourses of Testimony. This book will take a Bakhtinian approach to Latin American testimonial narrative and non-narrative texts, examining how ideology is inscribed in the various types of testimony

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María Estrella Sotomayor in Chile 2002



M. Estrella Sotomayor

This past spring María Estrella Sotomayor accompanied a group of twelve students to Santiago, Chile as Resident Director of the UWM Chile Study Program. Every year students

from UW-Milwaukee, Notre Dame, and Marquette University have the opportunity to enjoy the beauty of this country while attending the Pontificia Universidad Católica in Santiago, Chile. This program offers the opportunity of spending one semester or a full year at one of the top universities in Latin America while living with a Chilean family. The program is designed for students with an intermediate level of proficiency in Spanish. In this way, they can take courses from a wide range of disciplines, according to their major and personal interests.

As part of the Program, every semester several excursions are scheduled to different sites in Santiago and surrounding cities. Some of those excursions include trips to Pablo Neruda's houses in Isla Negra and Valparaíso. Visits to centers with traditional arts and crafts such as Poimaire are part of these excursions as well. Another interesting excursion is to Concha y Toro, one of the most important vineyards in Chile, and one of Chile's top exporters of wine to the United States.

This program is a wonderful opportunity for students who are interested in studying the history, culture, and traditions of Latin America as well as Spanish. Students who are planning on minoring or majoring in Spanish should consider the UWM Chile Study Program. Also, students majoring in Education, Business, Health Sciences, Social Welfare, and Architecture, and other disciplines would benefit from this experience as well.

The program is offered every year through the Office of Overseas Programs and Partnerships of the Center for International Education, in collaboration with the Department of Spanish and Portuguese. For details about next spring semester contact Kim Mitchell by phone at 229-5346 or via e-mail at mitchkim@uwm.edu



Susan Rascón



Susan Rascón

Susan Rascón's recent published translations include *Weaving Events in Time/ Tejiendo los sucesos en el tiempo* by Guatemalan Maya poet Calixta Gabriel, co-translated with UWM graduate student Suzanne Strugalla, *The Adventures of Mr. Puttison Among the Maya* by Víctor Montejo, co-translated with Fernando Peñalosa, *Adrift: The Cuban Raft People* by Alfredo Fernández. *El Q'anil: The Man of Lightning of Jacaltenango* by Víctor

Montejo, co-translated with Wallace Kaufman, *Town of the Silent People and Other Stories* by Norma García Mainieri, in which UWM graduate student Paula Loubier translated one of the stories, and *Salt of the Mountain: Campa Asháninka History and Resistance in the Peruvian Jungle* by Stefano Varese. In April 2002 Susan passed the federal court interpreter certification exam. She offered an Introduction to Interpreting course for the first time in Fall 2001; the course is being offered again this semester and will be followed by an advanced course in Spring 2003. Susan was recently promoted to associate professor with tenure.

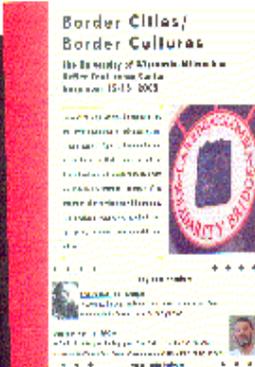
Under the direction of faculty adviser Margaret Crosby, our honor society held its initiation ceremony on May 3, 2002.



Members are Rose Acevedo, Joe Baker, Mariya Basin, Crystal Bub, Andrea Galindo, Nia Kordus, Erin Leary, Jill McRoberts, María Luisa Meyers, Melissa Puzia and Trishla Shah. Department Chair Joe Rodríguez was welcomed as an honorary member. The ceremony was followed by a reception which included special guest Professor Germán Carrillo, national president of Sigma Delta Pi.

Border Cities Conference

On Nov. 15th and 16th the Department of Spanish and Portuguese and the Center for International Education will co-host a major conference at UWM entitled Border Cities/Border Cultures. The conference will bring together over 25 speakers from 10 countries to examine the social and cultural exchanges taking place along various borders from numerous perspectives. Speakers will present new research on border art, music, and literature, city planning and architecture, media representations, the impact of NAFTA, the history of labor, and immigration control. Lawrence Herzog and Camilo Jose Vergara will give keynote addresses. The conference web site is www.uwm.edu/People/joerod/bordercities.htm. The conference is free but there is a charge of \$ 10 for lunch. Please fill out the registration form available on the web site.



Dr. Víctor Montejo

Presentation by Visiting Author



Dr. Víctor Montejo

In May 2001 Guatemalan anthropologist and author Víctor Montejo spoke on "The Rabbit and the Goat: A Trickster's Tale of Transnational Migration." The talk was based on his research on Maya folk tales as well as his studies of Maya immigrants. Born in Jacaltenango, Guatemala in 1951, Dr. Montejo is head of the Native American Studies department at the University of California at Davis. He is the author of many books, including *El Q'anil: Man of Lightning, The Bird who Cleans the World and Other Mayan Fables*, *Testimony: Death of a Guatemalan Village* and other academic and poetic works.

Members of Sigma Delta Pi hosted a reception following Dr. Montejo's talk.

Kathy Wheatley on Leave

Kathy Wheatley is taking a leave from her position as Language Coordinator and TA Supervisor during the 2002-2003 academic year so that she can dedicate her time to research, but she will return to teaching during the Spring 2003 semester. She is also continuing her work on the University of Wisconsin Spanish Placement Exam Committee. She is currently writing an Advanced Spanish Syntax textbook, which includes an historical and dialect perspective on the structure of the language and the ways in which it has evolved and diverged over time.

Earth as Witness

Professor Rodríguez-Luis Announces his Retirement.



Earth as Witness

On Friday, April 5, 2002 the Dept. of Spanish & Portuguese, together with the center for Latin American & Caribbean studies, sponsored a symposium on the topic **Earth as Witness**

This interdisciplinary symposium featured lectures by Rafael Lara-Martínez (El Salvador), "Nahualismo, Testimonio, and the Environment"; Heather Orr (Canada), "Sacred Space and Human Creations: Reflections of the Cosmos in Human Built Space in Ancient Oaxaca, Mexico; and Consuelo Hernández (Colombia), "Conflicting Interactions and Permanent Negotiation Between the Earth and Humans". The audience included undergraduates

as well as graduate students and professors and staff members from various departments at UWM and from other institutions across the state. One of the audience members was Leyla Castro from Santiago, Chile. Leyla was in Milwaukee visiting a friend. Subsequent to the symposium, Leyla applied to and was admitted to the MAFL Program.



After the symposium there was a reception at which everybody had the chance to ask a few more questions of the speakers.

Spanish Department Chair Julio Rodríguez-Luis has been on leave since Fall 2001 serving as a Resident Director of the New York University (NYU) in Madrid program. The program is a NYU study abroad for undergraduate and MA students created in 1957. Prof. Rodríguez-Luis recently announced that he will not be returning to UWM, but has decided to retire.

The Department of Spanish and Portuguese thanks Professor Rodriguez-Luis for his years of dedicated service and wishes him all the best. He can be reached at jrl6@nyu.edu.

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We hope you enjoyed this issue of *Alumni News*. Please drop us a note and share your news with us! Our address is still the same:

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[Web page: http://www.uwm.edu/Dept/Spanish/](http://www.uwm.edu/Dept/Spanish/)

We look forward to hearing from you!

Letter to Our Spanish Alumni

Estimada/o Amiga/o:

I write today to ask you to actively engage with your alma mater. You can do that in two ways.

First, share information about yourself, so we can share it with others. Please fill out and return the questionnaire below and we'll include your news in our next edition of Alumni News.

Second, please join the *Friends of Spanish*, an association of people like you who share an interest in the language, this Department, its faculty and —most importantly—our students.

The gifts made by the Friends of Spanish help support:

- Study abroad scholarships for students
- Videos and instructional materials for class use
- Special events like film festivals and guest speakers
- Student participation in professional conferences

Your tax-deductible gift of \$ 100 (Patron) or \$25 (Friend) will help us keep an active and vibrant Department by enabling us to respond to the needs of our students and alumni, like you.

Please take a moment to fill out the attached questionnaire and return it along with your membership in the *Friends of Spanish*. We will share your news through this newsletter and online at www.uwm.edu/Dept/Spanish.

We look forward to hearing from you and thank you for your friendship, interest and support!

Muy cordialmente,

Joseph Rodriguez
Professor and Chair

Yes, I want to Join the UWM *Friends of Spanish*!

Please sign me up as a Patron of Spanish at \$100 Friend of Spanish at \$25

_____ May tax-deductible contribution, payable to the UWM Foundation is enclosed; or

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News to Share _____



Kindly mail your check and this questionnaire to UWM Department of Spanish and Portuguese, P O Box 413 Milwaukee, WI 53201