VOCES BORICUAS DEL MIDWEST
with special guest:
Prof. Lawrence LaFountain-Stokes

On April 23, 2012, VOCES BORICUAS DEL MIDWEST: A READING IN SPANISH was held in Curtin Hall 175, starting at 4:30 PM, featuring Nancy Bird-Soto (UWM), Dinorah Cortés-Vélez (Marquette University), and special guest: Lawrence LaFountain-Stokes (University of Michigan-Ann Arbor).

Cortés-Vélez was the first one to read and she selected several vignettes from her novel: El arca de la memoria (San Juan: Isla Negra, 2011). Next up, Bird-Soto read a couple of the stories from her e-book: Sobre la tela de una araña (San Juan: Quinto Elemento, 2011). The third speaker was LaFountain-Stokes who read the story “Uñas pintadas de azul,” which gives title to the anthology: Uñas pintadas de azul/Blue Fingernails (Tucson: Bilingual Press, 2009).

An insightful question-and-answer session followed the individual readings. Topics included: orality, usage of the English language, newer trends in Puerto Rican narratives, how we envision our creative works as Puerto Rican writers who live in the United States, and how these texts may be considered part of US Latino/a literature were addressed.

Prof. César Ferreira moderated the event. Thanks to all who were able to attend, and to the Department of Spanish and Portuguese and Sigma Delta Pi for sponsoring Voces Boricuas del Midwest!

Special thanks to Ruth Solarte González for designing the VOCES poster!
The IV Ibero-American and Latino Studies Colloquium was held on Friday, March 30th, 2012 at Garland Hall 104. The keynote speaker was Prof. Pilar Melero (UW-Whitewater), who gave the talk: “El mundo zurdo: Order in the [Dis]order of Globalization.”

The graduate student presenters were from our M.A. program at UWM. Amy Dillon presented: “El narrador como protagonista en Los adioses de Juan Carlos Onetti.” Ruth Solarte González’s paper was: “Surrealidad, arquetipos y emancipación femenina en La última niebla de María Luisa Bombal.” The third presentation was by Miguel Rojo Polo, with the title: “La brujería en Aura de Carlos Fuentes.”

The event was well-attended and generated a lively question and answer session.

Many thanks to Prof. María del Pilar Melgarejo for organizing this year’s colloquium.

This event was sponsored by: the Department of Spanish and Portuguese, the Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies, and Sigma Delta Pi.

During Spring 2012, the Portuguese Program organized a "Portuguese Lecture Series." Dr. Nelson Vieira (Brown University) presented the talk "Homeland and/or Diaspora? The Cultural Politics of Being Jewish in Brazil" (02/02/2012). Dr. Onésimo Almeida (Brown University), gave the talk "On Lusofonia – What It Could Mean in Postcolonial Times" (03/28/2012). The last lecture of the series was by Dr. Anna Klobucka (University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth), who presented her conference "Regarding Libaninho: The Spectacle of Homosexuality in Eça de Queirós’s The Crime of Father Amaro" (04/18/2012). Thank you to the Center for Jewish Studies, and the Latin American Jewish Collection Associates for their co-sponsorship of Dr. Vieira’s talk, and thank you to the Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies for its contribution to the events.

Bate-Papo, the UWM Portuguese conversation group, continued to be held weekly on campus (Mondays, at 1 p.m.); and monthly, off-campus, at Alterra Coffee Shop (Humboldt Avenue, 7 p.m.). The off-campus meetings on 15 February, 7 March, and 11 April were a great moment for students and Portuguese-speaking members of the community to meet. Thanks to all who participated!

Thanks to Prof. Ricardo Vasconcelos for organizing the Lecture Series!


**Faculty and Teaching Staff News**

**Nancy Bird-Soto**'s article “Por el mundo que falta: Los viajes isleños de Luisa Capetillo” is now in print form (formerly available only in pdf version) in Sara Beatriz Guardia’s edition: *Viajeras entre dos mundos*. In March 2012, she presented the paper: “Gender, Censorship, and Resistance in Esmeralda Santiago’s *Conquistadora*” at the 47th Annual Comparative Literature Conference at California State University-Long Beach.

**César Ferreira** presented: “Marvel Moreno: El universo femenino en los cuentos de Marvel Moreno” at the 65th Annual Kentucky Foreign Language Conference, University of Kentucky, Lexington, Kentucky (April 2012).

On November 26, 2011, **John McCaw** spoke at a conference about travel literature, held at the National Sun-Yat Sen University in Kaohsiung, Taiwan. The title of his paper was “Deception and the Mock Journey in Cervantes’s *Don Quijote.*” Professor McCaw has also been named Early Modern Spanish Literature editor for *Hoguera*, an online journal for Hispanic Studies.

**María del Pilar Melgarejo** presented “Candelario Obeso: Poetry and Nation” at the XXVIII Biennial Louisiana Conference on Hispanic Languages and Literatures at Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, Louisiana (February 2012). She also presented “Max Nordau y Silva: Entre la miopía del científico y la sentencia del ‘degenerado’” at the IV International Conference Transatlantic Poetics Toward a Cross-Cultural Syntax at Brown University, Providence, RI (April 2012). Her talk for the Center for 21st Century Studies at UWM was “Race and Poetry: Tracing a Bridge between Centuries. From Candelario Obeso to Linton Kwesi Johnson” on April 16, 2012.


**Ricardo Vasconcelos** published the articles: “*Uma boleia para a aldeia – Afinidades entre A margadinha dos conventais e A cidade e as serras, e a afirmação que o serviço público de Júlio Dinis escreveu de leve.*” *Portuguese Literary & Cultural Studies* 21/22 (2011): 395-418; and “*Luis Miguel Nava e a poesia com O céu em entrelíneas.*” *Diacrítica* 25/3 (2011): 63-77. He presented “Between hope and farce: change and its (im)possibilities in *Capitães de Abril,*” at the Annual Meeting of the American Comparative Literature Association, held in April at Brown University, in Providence, RI. Prof. Vasconcelos is also currently developing the “Practice Tests” section for the website *MyPortugueseLab*, which will accompany the new edition of the Portuguese textbook *Ponto de Encontro*. On 21 April, Ricardo Vasconcelos participated in the teaching and learning workshop ‘Confronting Violence in Latin America,’ organized by the North Central Council of Latin Americanists in collaboration with the UWM CLACS Regional Faculty Associates.

**Kathy Wheatley** presented at the Conference of North Central Council of Latin Americanists, “How a Diachronic Perspective Helps to Explain Synchronic Variation in the Spanish Language” in October 2011. In March 2012, Prof. Wheatley, Ester Suárez-Felipe and Magaly Zeise presented at the Central States Conference on the Teaching of Foreign Languages, “*Social Software in Hybrid and Online Language Classes*”. At UWM, Kathy Wheatley has taught Introduction to Hispanic Linguistics online, Magaly Zeise has taught translation courses online, and Ester Suárez-Felipe has taught first- through fourth-semester Spanish in a hybrid format. The present-ation focused on ways to make online and hybrid language classes more interactive.

**Graduate student, Holly Wegmann,** has received a FLAS Scholarship to study Portuguese at Middlebury College this summer.

Congratulations to the Department’s 2012 Phi Beta Kappa inductees: Spanish Majors: Molly Cohen, Jessica Rose Forrest, Liana Mary Kapelke-Dale; Spanish Minors: Samantha Tricia Bilkey, Mary Catherine Ellis, Emily Jane Jakubowski, and Angela Mimi Tabrizi.

Ms. Ginett Pineda has been admitted to the doctoral program this fall at the University of Kansas.

Ms. Christine Vázquez has been admitted to the doctoral program in Spanish at the University of Iowa.

Jillian Koenen, Ginett Pineda, Fabiola Sigala-Díaz, and Christine Vázquez have completed their M.A. Comprehensive Exams this spring.

¡Felicitaciones!

Stay tuned for the FALL 2012 issue of APUNTES.
Sigma Delta Pi Ceremony

On April 6th, 2012, the following students were initiated into the Sigma Delta Pi-National Hispanic Honor Society, Epsilon Iota chapter at UW-Milwaukee:

Alexandra Therese Jones
Annette Maureen Kohl
Braelyn Grinwald
Chloe J. Cook
Iria Basoa
John Crawford
Kristian Dee Vaughn
Lindsey Kettner
Melissa Stone
Ramón Guerrero Payan
Roberto García Delgado
Samuel Ellis Graber Sr.
Stephanie Leege-Wesenberg
and
Theresa Hoppe.

In this ceremony, Marisela A. Chávez-Narváez was recognized for receiving the Outstanding Undergraduate Achievement Scholarship award, while Kristian Dee Vaughn received the Meta M. Steinfort Scholarship Award. Congratulations!!!

Many thanks to Ginett Pineda, President of Sigma Delta Pi-Epsilon Iota, and to Prof. María del Pilar Melgarejo (Faculty Advisor), as well as to the Sigma Delta Pi officers for coordinating the event.

WELCOME new members!

Sigma Delta Pi Officers

Top row (left to right):
Prof. Melgarejo,
Amy Dillon,
Miguel Rojo Polo,
Jillian Koenen,
Miguel Santos,
Prof. John McCaw
(Chair of the Department of Spanish and Portuguese)

Bottom row (left to right):
María Gleason-Maddox (Vice-President), Ginett Pineda (President), Ruth Solarte

FELICITACIONES
May 2012 graduates!

Bate Papo

AUTHORS...(page 1)
From left to right:
Bartolomé de las Casas, Fernán Caballero (Cecilia Bohl de Faber), and Alfonsina Storni