Greetings!

2015 has already proven to be a year of changes, of both challenges and opportunities. While UWM marks its important place in the cultural and economic life of Southeastern Wisconsin, and envisions new ways to serve the community, MALLT has been very busy constructing new initiatives to enrich our program. Fall 2015 will mark the beginning of our first integrated BA/MA degree: a BA in Latin American, Caribbean and U.S. Latino Studies with a professional MA in Translation and Interpreting Studies with an emphasis on Spanish to English or French to English translation. Many people were involved in the creation of this program, which will offer talented undergraduates the means to acquire foundational knowledge of Latino, Latin American, and Caribbean history and cultures, and, as graduate students, to apply this knowledge to the study and practice of translation and interpreting. This is the only BA/MA degree program of its kind in the country!

We applaud the 14 students who graduated this year, and this Fall we welcome 14 new students, from far and wide.

As we end a chapter, and begin yet another, I am reminded of a 1936 poem by Marge Piercy, entitled “Doors opening, closing on us”:

Maybe there is more of the magical in the idea of a door than in the door itself. It’s always a matter of going through into something else. But while some doors lead to cathedrals arching up overhead like stormy skies and some to sumptuous auditoriums...

MALLT Travel Award

2014-2015 marked the first year of the MALLT Travel Award, which offers partial funding to MALLT students for presenting scholarly and creative works at conferences, performances, or exhibitions. Such activities are an important part of the professional development of graduate students, providing them with opportunities to share their research, establish professional networks and contacts for collaborative research, and identify future employers. This endeavor is already bearing fruit – five MALLT students presented their work nationally, at conferences held all over the United States. Several of the students share their experiences here:

Jessica Barg presented her paper, “A Post-Soviet Forum for Missed Connections: Heteroglossia in The Time: Night”, at Indiana University Bloomington’s First Annual Graduate Conference in Comparative Literature in April, 2015. Jessica’s paper explored how the emergence of heteroglossia, or “different-speech-ness”, in the novel is able to bridge missed connections and enhance narrative.

Jessica is a Milwaukee native who completed her BA in Comparative Literature from UWM in the spring of 2014. Entering her second year in the MALLT program in the fall of 2015, Jessica has a concentration in comparative literature, taking an interdisciplinary approach with her studies. Jessica’s interests include the philosophy of action, narrative theory, allegory, and trauma in literature and film.

Catherine Kirchman attended the two-day UIC graduate student conference “Converging Narratives: The Personal Meets the National” in April 2015 in Chicago and presented on “Europeana and the Deutsche Digitale Bibliothek: EU Cultural Policy through Digital Libraries.” The interdisciplinary conference included research by many graduate students from around the country who focused on personal narratives in a transnational and globalized context.

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Catherine says “It was very interesting and refreshing to hear the research of grad students in different departments at different universities and in different phases of their research present from very different perspectives. This conference was a great opportunity to get out of my own circle at UWM and have the chance to talk to other academics about their research.”

Catherine is currently pursuing a dual degree in the MALLT/LIS program at UWM, focusing on German and Digital Libraries and has a background in both German Studies (BA from University of Minnesota - Twin Cities) and Social Sciences (MA from Humboldt University of Berlin).

Kristy Brown Lust attended the American Translator’s Association conference in November 2014 in Chicago. She attended several breakout sessions specifically geared toward freelance translators and learned about translation for the premium market, payment methods available for freelancers, and tips from translation agency project managers for successful collaboration, among many other topics. Kristy says “It was energizing and exciting to be among professional translators and greatly enhanced my interest in and knowledge of the translation profession. I made several connections with other translators that will be beneficial for my personal and career growth. I’m thrilled to be part of the translation community and look forward to collaborating with the many talented linguists in our field.”

Kristy graduated with her MA in French translation in May 2015. She lives in Madison, Wisconsin and works full-time in development and marketing for the YWCA Madison. She is also starting a freelance translation business, Perspectives Translation, specializing in international development. She graduated from Walla Walla University with a BA in Mass Communications and French, which included a year living and studying in France.

and some to caves of nuclear monsters

most just yield a bathroom or a closet. Still, the image of a door is liminal, passing from one place into another one state to the other, boundaries

and promises and threats. Inside to outside, light into dark, dark into light, cold into warm, known into strange, safe into terror, wind

into stillness, silence into noise or music. We slice our life into segments by rituals, each a door to a presumed new phase. We see ourselves progressing from room to room perhaps dragging our toys along until the last door opens and we pass at last into was.

All my best for the 2015-2016 academic year!

Michelle Bolduc, MALLT Coordinator
MALLT Faculty Updates

Sarah Davies Cordova (French) and the “2015 Festival of Films in French” and “Francophonie”

In February, during the 2015 Festival of Films in French, Sarah Davies Cordova organized a roundtable discussion which discussed the hip hop film Faire kifer les anges [Pleasure to the people] with the director, Jean-Pierre Thorn. At the table were Paul Cebar (Milwaukee songster & music composer), Nat Godley (Contemporary French History, Alverno College), Portia Cobb (video artist and producer, UWM), Cedric Garner (Sole Matter Movement Company & UWM Dance) and Sarah Davies Cordova (UWM). Speaking in English and French about hip hop in the US and in France, they discussed the music that they listen to and are influenced by and the visuals and construction of the documentary. Later that evening, she helped with translation of the talk back following the sociology and music history film entitled 93 la Belle Rebelle [93 the beautiful Rebel] that spanned the 1950s to the present urban French musical scene.

In March, in conjunction with worldwide events celebrating Francophonie, together with the Alliance Française, and the Institute of World Affairs, she organized a roundtable conversation with Rodney Saint Eloi, a Haitian poet, essayist and the founder of two publishing houses now residing in Montreal.

Leah Leone (Translation) and “A Chain of Endless Tigers: Jorge Luis Borges Revisits UWM”

In April 1976, Jorge Luis Borges – one of the most influential writers of the 20th century – gave a series of talks sponsored by UWM’s Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies, in collaboration with the Department of Spanish and Portuguese and many other departments on campus and at Marquette. Last year, Assistant Director of CLACS, Julie Kline, uncovered and digitized three film recordings of the event and approached Leah Leone, a Borges scholar, asking if she would like to collaborate and create an event around the films. Leah transcribed the talks and MALLT students Jody Forbeck, Leticia De La Paz Dios, Patricia Muñoz Andres, and Mario Sanchez Gumiel inserted the transcriptions as subtitles. On April 2, we hosted a viewing and discussion of the subtitled films. “A Chain of Endless Tigers: Jorge Luis Borges Revisits UWM.” Featured Borges scholars Daniel Balderston and Alfredo Alonso Estenoz provided context for, and stimulating discussion around, Borges’s talks. These films are very special as they are the only known video recordings of Borges giving a lecture in English. CLACS will be hosting links to the films on their website, and we invite all who couldn’t attend the event to enjoy UWM’s remarkable visit with one of Latin America’s greatest authors.

Lorena Terando (Translation) and the CIE Translation Conference

Translation & Interpreting Studies (TIS) was elated to participate in the 2015 Center for International Education Annual Conference on Translation (http://www4.uwm.edu/cie/research/conferences/translation/). The Conference afforded fellowships to UWM faculty including Lorena Terando, Joel Berkowitz, Xin Huang, Andrew Kincaid, Maria Gillespie, and Elizabeth Drame. On April 23-25, the fellows were joined by international translation scholars from an array of disciplines, who study translation from varying perspectives. Lydia Liu (Columbia University) kicked off the weekend with a deconstruction of the production of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, done simultaneously in several languages. Drame took up more specific points of translating concepts of disability from English to French in the drafting legislation for special education in Senegal.

Moving from public policy to literary translation, Suzanne Jill Levine (University of California at Santa Barbara) talked of the writerly nature of being a translator, and the translatorly nature of being a writer. She likened literary translation to close-elaboration, and Olga Behar (University of Santiago de Cali) expounded on that theme in the context of uncovering the truth behind the training of paramilitary troops in Colombia. John Cayley (Brown University) led us to translating e-literature in micro collages of poetic texts, while Igor Pilshchikov (Moscow State University) presented homophonic poetry in Russian. Kincaid teased out translation within Samuel Beckett’s radio plays.

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There are infinite modes of and audiences for translation, confirmed Russell Scott Valentino (Indiana University at Bloomington) in his discussion of the rhetorics of translation. Terando focused on the rhetorics of pain in the translation of testimonial narratives, while Stephenie Young (Salem State University) took up the rhetorics of objects and remains through forensics as a site where meaning is produced and scrutinized. She showed how the dead speak as witnesses in absentia, much, Berkowitz later showed, as plays of the Shoah in Yiddish speak to events during the Holocaust.

Martha Pulido (Universidad de Antioquia) presented translation as a key factor in recording history throughout the world, and Naoki Sakai (Cornell University) conjectured that translation is prior to the postulation of language individuality and of borders. For him, when we are at a loss, we turn to translation. UWM’s Meg Noodin expanded on translation’s connection to understanding through songs in Anishinaabe and the effort to preserve Ojibwe in the face of English dominance. Natasa Durovicova (University of Iowa) expanded on the concept of the “rain shadow” of English and its hegemonic properties that distort meaning across global data networks. Hamid Naficy (Northwestern University) demonstrated how hegemonic interpretations can distort meaning and value through Iranian Cinema and its perception in the West as singularly political. Distorted meaning through “fake” or “make-believe” translation in the films of Anna May Wong was the theme of Yiman Wang (University of California at Santa Cruz). And using English to coin new or nuanced meaning in Chinese was Huang’s focus as she discussed the state of Women’s Studies in China.

The talks were diverse, ranging from Gillespie’s demonstration of the palimpsest of meaning brought to movement through dance, to Kristiina Abdallah’s (University of Vaasa) documentation of a professional translator’s trajectory through the task of translating in unfavorable conditions for unscrupulous language-services companies, to how Lane Hall (UWM) translates light into multi-media artifacts that in turn, translate urgency into action. The conference will be present for all of us for some time to come! TIS is deeply grateful to Patrice Petro and the Center for International Education for leading us through a spectacular year of collaboration and company.

MALLT welcomes our new students for Spring and Fall 2015!

**Spring 2015**

Mary Margaret Burke (Translation-Russian & MLIS)
Matthew Eikamp (Translation-German)
Margaret Koeppel (French & Translation-French)

**Fall 2015**

Dario Castro (Translation-English to Spanish)
Dana Idelbi (Translation-Arabic)
Timothy Lomeli (French)
James Lopez (Translation-Spanish)
David Powell (Translation-Spanish)
James Richie (Comparative Literature & Translation-Spanish)
Anna Shegay (Translation-Russian & MBA)
Stacy Stingle (Comparative Literature & French)
Rita Szopinski (Translation-Italian)
Emily Voss (Comparative Literature & MLIS)
Charlotte Wichert (French)
Congratulations to MALLT students and alumni who have provided details of their recent accomplishments:

**Jessica Barg** (Comparative Literature) received a MALLT Travel Award to attend Indiana University Bloomington’s First Annual Graduate Conference in Comparative Literature, April 2015.

**Bryce Bray** (Translation-Spanish) has received a Research-Travel award from the Center for Latin American Studies for his work with Fundación en Vía in Oaxaca, Mexico. The company supports the growth and creation of income-generating businesses, and encourages personal development through participatory programs that promote the empowerment of women, the well-being of their families, and the strengthening of community.

**James Russell Doing, Jr.** (Translation-German) is completing his internship requirements with the Max Kade Institute. His translation of a 1915 article from the St. Louis-based German newspaper *Die Abendschule* was published in the Spring 2015 Max Kade Institute Friends Newsletter, as part of the article, “The German Language in a Time of War: *Die Abendschule* Speaks Out in 1915.”

**Rocío Filace** (Translation-Spanish 2015) received a MALLT Travel Award to attend the Midwest Association of Translators & Interpreters conference held in Madison in September 2014.

**Steve Hackbarth** (Comparative Literature & Spanish 2006) successfully defended his dissertation in October 2014 and is working full time at Wisconsin Lutheran College in Milwaukee.

**Catherine Kirchman** (German) received a MALLT Travel Award to attend the two-day UIC graduate student conference “Converging Narratives: The Personal Meets the National” in April 2015 in Chicago.

**Kris Knisley** (French 2011) successfully defended his dissertation in April 2015 and has accepted a tenure-track position in French at the University of South Dakota.

**Cynthia Laborde** (Translation-French 2010) will be a visiting assistant professor of French at Hamilton College.

**Kristy Lust** (Translation-French 2015) received a MALLT Travel Award to attend the American Translation Association conference held in Chicago in November 2014.

**Elisabeth Lyman** (Translation-French 2004) was profiled in *Swell!* magazine in an article entitled “Live Your Dream: Expat Elisabeth Lyman on Living Abroad + Loving It.” She discusses her life in Paris and her work as a freelance French to English translator, along with the recent publication of her translation of Armand Chauvel’s novel, *The Green and the Red.*

**Nathalie Segeral** (Comparative Literature & Translation-French 2007) is an assistant professor of French at the University of Hawaii at Manoa.

**Katherine Sommer** (Translation-French 2014) is working as a project manager for Southern Wisconsin Interpreting and Translation Services (SWITS).

**Anne Torinus** (French) is participating in the Paris-III MICEFA exchange program.

**Nathan Wichert** (Translation-German 2015) was named “Most Outstanding Graduate Student” by the UWM German department and has accepted a position at Point-to-Point Translation in Milwaukee.

**Peng Yu** (Comparative Literature 2007) has accepted a tenure-track position at Earlham College in Indiana.

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**Fall 2015 Colloquia and Events**

**Thursday, October 1, 3:30-5PM (Curtin 766):**

Jessica Barg & Catherine Kirchman, 2014-2015 MALLT Travel Award Recipients

**Wednesday, November 4, 3:30-5PM (Curtin 766):**


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**Student, Alumnus or Friend – All are Invited to Join us on Social Media**

https://www.facebook.com/uwmtranslation
Joel Berkowitz (Foreign Languages & Literature) completed the entry on Yiddish Theater for Oxford Bibliographies in Jewish Studies. The bibliographic essay will be posted to the series early this summer. During the current year as a Global Studies Fellow at UWM, Berkowitz has laid the groundwork for a book-length study of Yiddish Holocaust Drama, and presented his findings at recent conferences at UWM and the University of Toronto. He is also presenting papers on other aspects of Yiddish theater this spring, at New York University and the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. He is currently serving as script consultant on a new play by Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright Paula Vogel; her play *Indecent* will premiere at the Yale Repertory Theatre in October.

Michelle Bolduc (French) was awarded a two-year National Endowment of the Humanities Scholarly Editions and Translations Award ($76,000) for “Rendez-vous with Rhetoric: New Translations and Commentary on the Writings of Chaim Perelman and Lucie Olbrechts-Tyteca” (co-authored with David Frank), which will be published by the University of Notre Dame Press. In April of 2015, she was invited to give a special lecture on Brunetto Latini’s translations of Ciceronian rhetoric at the University of Warwick (U.K.). She will have published two articles in 2015: “The Form of Authority in Medieval Translation: Brunetto Latini’s Translations of Cicero,” in *The Medieval Translator*, edited by Michèle Goyens and Pieter De Leemans, Turnhout: Brepols; and “Writing between History and Poetry: Jean de Meun as Apparition,” in *Festschrift in Honor of William C. Calin*, edited by Barbara K. Altmann and Laurence de Looze, London, Ont: University of Western Ontario UP.

Sarah Davies Cordova (French) presented a paper entitled “Transculturation of South African Dance: Transliteracy and the Translation of Ballet” in November at the 2014 joint meeting of CORD and SDHS in Iowa, entitled *Writing Dance, Dancing Writing*. In June 2015, she will present a paper: “Raising spectors: Cargo’s socio-historical memory” in her panel “Plumbing the past: Dancing with memory” at the 2015 joint CORD and SDHS annual conference in Athens, Greece, entitled “Cut and Paste: Dance Advocacy in the Age of Austerity.” In July 2015, she co-presented a paper, “Danseuses at life: Trans-graphing (Ballet’s) Traditions and the Breaks of Genres in South African Dance,” on a plenary panel entitled “Counterpoint(e) and resurgence: Discourses in recent South African ballet practice(s)” at the 8th Confluences conference at the University of Cape Town.

Leah Leone (Translation & Interpreting Studies) was the 2014 conference organizer for the American Literary Translators Association annual conference held here in Milwaukee. The 300 some attendees enjoyed the programming, which featured free public readings at the downtown library, and a closing event with some of UWM’s greatest poets – Brenda Cárdenas, Kim Blaeser (now the Wisconsin Poet Laureate) and Meg Noodin. Emerita professor Pat Lunn also co-read her English translation Persian language fiction by Maryam Sepehri. In spring 2015, Leah published a chapter in the book, *Una profunda necesidad en la ficción contemporánea: la recepción de Borges en la república mundial de las letras*, entitled, “¿Qué tiene un nombre? Jorge Luis Borges y la traducción de The Wild Palms.” In June 2015 Leah and MALLT graduate Megan McGee were awarded a $3,500 Community University Partnership Grant to host a completely bilingual Ex Fabula Story Slam.

Kristin Pitt (Comparative Literature) gave a presentation entitled “Navigating Gendered Threats: Literary Maps of Ciudad Juárez, Mexico” at “Gendered Rights to the City: Intersections of Identity and Power,” a conference organized by the International Geographical Union Commission on Gender and Geography and the Department of Geography at UWM in April 2015. She will be presenting her research at two more conferences in Milwaukee this fall: the Asociación Internacional de Literatura y Cultura Femenina Hispánica 25th Annual Congress in October and the National Women’s Studies Association 2015 Conference in November.

In 2015-2016, she will be a fellow at UWM’s Center for 21st Century Studies when the Center’s annual research theme is “Indigeneities.” Her project, “Narratives of Apathy and Atrocity: Representing Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women in North America,” examines contemporary literary and cinematic representations of gendered violence and feminicide in Canada, the United States, and Mexico.

Nicolas Russell (French) was awarded the NEH Grant: “A New Translation and Scholarly Edition of Marguerite de Navarre’s Heptameron,” NEH Scholarly Editions and Translations Grant, Co-PI with Mary B. McKinley (U. of Virginia). He gave three lectures/papers, two on the Heptameron translation and one on Clément Marot:


• “How to Create and Sustain Cultural Memory: Clément Marot as Editor and Poet,” Invited Speaker, Center for Early Modern Studies, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 10 October 2014.

Students who study a second language and literature earn 2% more than monolingual workers.¹

Students who learn Spanish earn 1.5% more; French 2.3% more; and German 3.8% more!

Economists in the UK estimate that the lack of second-language proficiency costs the British economy $80 billion per year.² Imagine what the U.S.—where only 2% of college students study a foreign language— loses, and what individual workers lose, from not knowing a second (or third) language!

By 2022, the Bureau of Labor Statistics projects 46 percent employment growth for interpreters and translators, which is much faster than the average for all occupations.³

It pays to get a Masters Degree in a foreign language, literature, or translation!

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² http://www.economist.com/blogs/prospero/2014/03/language-study