



APUNTES

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Carlos Núñez, the famous Galician gaitero, visits UWM

Carlos Núñez, known as an undisputed master of the Galician bagpipes, performed and discussed the connections between Celtic and Latin music on Wednesday, October the 10th, 2012 at the Helene Zelazo Center, University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee.

After releasing his latest album, *Discover*, Carlos Núñez is currently touring North America to present his new CD featuring The Chieftains, Ry Cooder, Sinead O'Connor, Los Lobos, Jackson Browne and more.

During his visit to the University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee, and after being introduced by Prof. Gabriel Rei-Doval, Carlos Núñez discussed the strong connections between the region of Galicia, his homeland, and the Celtic world. In addition, he highlighted the importance of the medieval Galician-Portuguese culture which, after the Portuguese expeditions in the New World, made its way to Brazil. As well, Carlos Núñez pointed out the musical influence caused by the Galician emigration movement to Latin America in the twentieth

century.

Having Carlos Núñez visit our campus was an honor for both students and faculty members. This successful event was sponsored by the Department of Spanish and Portuguese, Center for Celtic Studies, Peck School of the Arts, and the Hispanic Honor Society Sigma Delta Pi.

(Submitted by Iria Basoa Calvo and Sabela Juan Taborada)



Congratulations

To graduate student Roberto García Delgado, for his presentation at the “En Route: Journeys of the Body and the Soul in the Iberian and Latin American Literatures” conference at the University of Chicago in October,

To M.A. student Amy Dillon for passing her M.A. exams, and

To former M.A. student Amy Olen for passing her Ph.D. Comprehensive Exams in Spanish at UT-Austin

Inside this issue:

Salgado Maranhão visits UWM.....	pg 2
Other talks in the Department.....	pg 2
Faculty and teaching staff news.....	pg 3
Writing contest winner.....	pg 3
Portuguese weekend immersion.....	pg 4
In Memoriam.....	pg 4
Alumnus letter.....	pg 4
ΣΔΠ events.....	pg 5



Professor Ernesto
González Seoane
- see pg 2

Portuguese Program at UWM

On the weekend of 19-21 November, the department had its first “Portuguese Weekend Immersion Experience,” a one-credit class tailored to expose students to the Luso-Brazilian culture and promote an intensive use of the language. The class was taught by Cássio Muniz and included activities that ranged from a Luso-Brazilian lunch prepared by students and faculty, to guest talks by UWM Dance Professor Simone Ferro, who lectured on the traditional Brazilian Northeastern dance “bumba-meu-boi”) and Ricardo Vasconcelos, who lectured on “música de resistência e intervenção” in contemporary Portugal. Thanks to all involved in making this weekend and learning experience a success (see picture on

page 4 of this newsletter).

On 12 November, the Portuguese Program hosted a bilingual reading of poems from the recently published *Blood of the Sun* (Sol sanguíneo) by Brazilian poet Salgado Maranhão and translator Alexis Levitin. Thank you to our speakers and members of the community for attending the event, and to the Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies and the Center for International Education for their co-sponsorship.

On 30 October, Kevin Beisser (CIE), Julie Kline (CLACS) and Ricardo Vasconcelos (Spanish and Portuguese) were received in Chicago by the Brazilian Consul-General, Ambassador Paulo Camargo, and the Education and Culture Secretaries, David Saide

and Camilla Barros, to discuss ways of expanding the collaboration between UWM and the Consulate and Brazilian agencies.

“Bate-Papo” is now organized by the student organization “Portuguese Conversation Group,” and meets at 7pm every Tuesday of the academic calendar, at the Gasthaus (Union) or, on the second Tuesday of the month, at the Alterra Coffee Shop – Humboldt Ave. Thanks to the students for organizing this!

Congratulations to Austin Krogh, who is the recipient of an undergraduate Foreign Language and Area Studies FLAS Fellowship for the academic year 2012-13, a program coordinated by the Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies.

(Submitted by Prof. Vasconcelos)

Our department
is on
FACEBOOK
Groups!
—
Join us!

Brazilian poet Salgado Maranhão visits UWM



Alexis Levitin and Salgado Maranhão
— class lecture

The UWM Department of Spanish and Portuguese, along with the UWM Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies, and the UWM Center for International Education, sponsored a bilingual (Portuguese and English) poetry reading by Brazilian author Salgado Maranhão and translator Alexis Levitin on November 12.

They read from Salgado Maranhão's *Blood of the Sun*, the recently-published translation of the acclaimed *Sol Sangüíneo* (<http://milkweed.org/shop/product/302/blood-of-the-sun/>).

Salgado Maranhão is one of Brazil's leading contemporary poets. His collected poems, *The Color of the Word*, won Brazil's

highest award, the Prêmio de Poesia da Academia Brasileira de Letras, for the year 2011. An earlier collection, *Mural of Winds*, won the prestigious Prêmio Jabuti in 1999. In addition to eight books of poetry, including *The Snake's Fists*, *The Kiss of the Beast*, and the recent *Tiger's Fur*, Maranhão has written song lyrics and made recordings with some of Brazil's leading jazz and pop musicians.



Other talks sponsored by the Department...

Conservatorio de Letras Colombianas

Nov. 19 (co-sponsored with CLACS and Sigma Delta Pi)

Dr. Gabriel Pabón, "Otras escrituras literarias: El diario, la crónica, el testimonio y el minicuento." Dr. Gabriel Pabón's fields are Spanish linguistics, semiotics, narrative, literature, and creative writing. He is the author of thirteen books (novels and short stories). His latest novels *Barrio hereje* (2011) and *En el nombre del señor* (2011) have become national bestsellers in Colombia. In 2001, Pabón won the International Juan Rulfo Award for Short Stories, sponsored by the French government.

Dr. Enrique Cabeza Barrios, "La enseñanza de la lengua: Una experiencia total." Dr. Enrique Cabeza Barrios is from Bogotá, Colombia and specializes in

Spanish linguistics, dialectology, and Spanish-language teaching methodology. He is the author of 29 internationally renowned grammar textbooks and has served as Dean of the College of Humanities at the Universidad Libre in Bogotá and as a consultant for the Colombian Ministry of Education from 1982-2003.

Nayla Chehada

Associate Professor at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater and author of *A puerta cerrada* (2012), a collection of short stories published in Spain (Ediciones Torremozas) which discuss the dictatorship of Rafael Leonidas Trujillo in the Dominican Republic, among other topics, visited UWM on Wednesday, November 28.

Martin Gaspar

Lecturer at UW-Madison, gave a talk, "Fiction's Turn: 'Post-Testimonial' Novels in Central America," November 28. The talk was cosponsored by CLACS and the Department of Spanish and Portuguese.

Ernesto González Seoane

Distinguished Professor, Dean of the Facultad de Filología at the Universidade de Santiago de Compostela (Spain, 2004-12), and Visiting Scholar at Georgetown University, gave a talk entitled "Prensa, sátira y propaganda. La emergencia del gallego escrito en los albores de la España contemporánea" on November 29.

Faculty and Teaching Staff News

Nancy Bird-Soto published a chapter entitled "En la frontera del artificio: *La muñeca* de Carmela Eulate Sanjurjo y *Sirena Selena vestida de pena* de Mayra Santos Febres" in *FRONTIERAS DE LA MEMORIA: Cartografías de género en artes visuales, cine y literatura en las Américas y España* (Eds. Bernardita Llanos y Ana María Goetschel. Santiago, Chile: Cuarto Propio, 2012), 219-38. She chaired the Latin American Permanent Section and presented a paper entitled "Lo bueno de todas las razas: De José Martí a Jesús Colón" at the MMLA Convention in Cincinnati (November 2012), and presented "Whimsical Women/Upsetting Hierarchies: Gender and Labor in the Plays of Luisa Capetillo and Franca de Armiño" at the Recovery Project Conference in Houston, Texas (October 2012). Additionally, in June 2012, she participated in the "Las Dos Brujas Writers Workshop" in Ghost Ranch, New Mexico with Chicana author, Denise Chávez. Her photo-essay publication resulting from the workshop was recently published in *Revista Cruce* and is available at <<http://revistacruce.com/fotografia/bajo-el-cielo-de-nuevo-mexico.html>> .

César Ferrera presented the paper "Sobre *La civilización del espectáculo*, de Mario Vargas Llosa" at the 69th annual meeting of the South Central Modern Language Association in San Antonio, Texas (November 2012). He was also an invited keynote speaker at the 17a

Feria Internacional del Libro in Lima, Peru (July 2012), where he presented "De lo andino a lo universal: Homenaje a Edgardo Rivera Martínez." He published a review on Jorge Coaguila's, editor, "Mario Vargas Llosa: Entrevistas escogidas," in *Chasqui* 40.1 (2012): 208-09. Professor Ferreira's most recent book, *The Word according to Clarice Lispector: Critical Approaches* (2011), was reviewed by Earl E. Fitz, "La palabra según Clarice Lispector," in *Latin American Literary Review* 4.79 (2012): 119-21; by José Cardona López, "La palabra según Clarice Lispector," in *Letras* 82.117 (Diciembre-Enero 2011): 233-34; and by Vanessa Valdés, "La palabra según Clarice Lispector," in *Hispania* 95.2 (June 2012): 357-58.

R. John McCaw presented "Playing the Pipes: Poetics, Parody, and the Pan and Syrinx Myth in Early Modern Spain" at the 15th Annual Mediterranean Studies Association Congress in Pula, Croatia (June 2012) and "Góngora, the Virgin Mary, and Spiritual Pilgrimage in Luis de Tejada's *El peregrino de Babilonia*" at the Mid-America Conference on Hispanic Literatures in Lincoln, Nebraska (October 2012).

Jeffrey Oxford published an edited collection of essays *Gente de frontera: The Mexico-U.S. Border in Hispanic Literature* (San Juan, Puerto Rico: Editorial Casa de los Poetas, 2012), as well as an article, "El valor simbólico de la comida y la obtención de alimentos: Una aproximación socio-cultural a las novelas valencianas / Food and Food Gathering's Symbolic Value: A Socio-Cultural Approach to the Valencian Novels" in the inaugural issue of *Revista de Estudios sobre Blasco Ibáñez / Journal of Blasco Ibáñez Studies* (2012: pgs 119-30, 265-73), and a

review of *Commander Mendoza/El Comendador Mendoza* (by Juan Valera, translated by Robert M. Fedorchek, in *Bulletin of Spanish Studies* 89.1 (2012): 141-43. He also presented two essays: "The Short Stories of Alicia Giménez Bartlett," at the SCMLA annual meeting (San Antonio, TX) in November, and "The End of an Era: Eduardo Mendoza's Detective Cannot Go Home Again," at the Conferencia Internacional de Literatura Detectivesca en Español (CILDE II) (Lubbock, TX) in September.

Ricardo Vasconcelos published the article "Multimedia Activities in L2 Course Websites—The Case Study of a Site Dedicated to Cultural Topics of Portuguese-Speaking Countries" in *CALICO Journal* 29.4 (2012): 639-62. He also presented the essay "Fernando Pessoa, ou o Antologista Angustiado" at the 8th Congress of the American Portuguese Studies Association held in Iowa City (October 2012).



Dr. Bird-Soto with author Denise Chávez

Jared Blommel, winner of the 2012 Spanish Writing Contest, sponsored by the Epsilon Iota chapter of Sigma Delta Pi

As Miguel Rojo Polo, the president of Epsilon Iota explains, "Taking on the issues discussed in the [Simposio (see pg 5 of this newsletter)], and also reflecting on other culture-related things, [students] wrote essays in Spanish to share with the rest of the students present in the event. The winner of this event donated to a Peruvian charity the \$50 won, showing once again the involvement of the students with the Hispanic world." Blommel's essay was entitled "Si sabes la verdad, sabes que no puedes saber la verdad; Un análisis del 'Etnógrafo' por Jorge Luis Borges.

Blommel's letter of gratitude follows:

El verano pasado fui a Perú con la ONG VivePerú. Trabajé como voluntario con otros estudiantes ayudando a varias comunidades en las áreas de medicina, trabajo social, educación, música e ingeniería. Los internos de un hospital en Trujillo y yo nos hicimos buenos amigos y me hablaron de Hilary, una niña de 4 años que tiene problemas de lenguaje. Fuimos a verla a ella y su familia y fue evidente que tenían problemas financieros. Poco después VivePerú pagó la primera cita con un neurólogo pediátrico. Descubrimos que Hilary había tenido problemas de asfixia cuando nació y por eso su cerebro sufrió daños en la zona que controla la parte verbal. Salvo eso, ella es completamente sana y una gran alegría para todos. El neurólogo nos dijo que ella tiene hasta seis años para mejorar su habilidad verbal; después de seis años esta parte del cerebro deja de crecer. Quiero



apoyarla a ella y darle el premio de cincuenta dólares que gané en el Concurso de ensayo organizado por Sigma Delta Pi este semestre. Este dinero servirá para pagar veintiséis sesiones de logopedia – terapia del habla. ¡Agradezco mucho a Sigma Delta Pi por este regalo!

Jared Blommel (Xavier)

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Apuntes

In Memoriam



Oliver T. Myers (1931-2011)

(submitted by Pierre Ullman,
Prof Emeritus, Spanish & Portuguese)
(Myers Photo ca. 1994)

The University was recently informed that Professor Emeritus Oliver Tomlinson Myers died over a year ago at the age of eighty. Having joined UWM in 1966, he was elected chairman of the department in 1967, a position which he repeatedly held.

Having obtained his doctorate in Spanish linguistics, his teaching specialty at UWM was Spanish articulatory phonetics and phonology. Professor Myers's reviews, published by prestigious journals, of treatises on abstruse contemporary linguistic theory earned him considerable respect in the profession. He also worked tirelessly as a bibliographer for the Modern Language Association, devoting long hours to the task of typing index cards in order to compile the yearly bibliography.

He was eventually appointed for a number of years as Associate Vice Chancellor, a post in which he earned the reputation of performing administrative work promptly and with extraordinary efficiency.

After a distinguished career as a member of the UWM faculty, Professor Myers retired in the Summer of 1992. He will be remembered by all with whom he had contact during his UWM career.



Portuguese Weekend
Immersion Experience
—
See article at the bottom
of page 1.

Student letter, edited, received this semester:

My name is Ian Arzeni. I am a UWM alumnus and a former student of [...] Spanish. [...] I felt compelled to write you to express my gratitude and also to share a few details about my current whereabouts and goings-on.

As the subject of this email indicates, I am in Peru, serving as a Peace Corps Volunteer. I arrived in June 2010 and recently completed my two years of service; however, after falling in love with this country, the people and my work as a Volunteer, I am extending my stay for another year and will soon assume a leadership position on the regional level. I live and work in the community of Bello Horizonte (pop. 1,200), a coastal site *en la falda de la sierra*, in the department of La Libertad, about 30 minutes east of Trujillo. As a Youth Development Volunteer, I mostly work in the nearby primary/secondary school, teaching and orienting kids about health issues, leadership abilities, and life skills.

[...] The sad irony of naming a poor district of Lima El Porvenir; the old *serrano* who, before drinking, offered a bit to La Pachamama in thanks for her graces.

[...] you fomented a passion and curiosity for Latin American culture and literature that stays with me to this day. For that, I thank you.

I hope this finds you well at the start of a new school year.

Saludos,

Ian Arzeni

**Congratulations and best wishes
to our December 2012 graduates!**



*Sigma Delta Pi
(Spanish Honor Society)
Concurso de Escritura Creativa,
Ballet Folklórico Hermanos Ávila
and
Simposio*

"Encuentros y desencuentros en el Día de la Raza"; 12 October)

