

APUNTES

Department of Spanish and Portuguese | University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Spanish Language House - Fall 2015

"Aquí se habla español"

Beginning in Fall 2015, students can choose to live in the Spanish Language House, a living learning community in Cambridge Hall for students who have studied Spanish in high school and want to practice their language skills beyond the classroom.

Note from the Chair

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate our Spanish majors and MA students who are graduating this semester. We hope that what you have learned while studying Spanish at UWM will serve you well in your future endeavors, and please keep in touch and let us know what you are doing. You can write to me at wheatley@uwm.edu.

Enhorabuena,

Kathy Wheatley

Chair

Dept. of Spanish and Portuguese

733 Curtin Hall, P.O. Box 413

3243 N. Downer Ave.

Milwaukee, WI 53211

(414) 229-4257

García Márquez and the Sacred

Prof. Aníbal González-Pérez's visit to UWM

On April 13th, 2013, **Dr. Aníbal González-Pérez** was recognized with the Order of Don Quijote, the highest honor conferred by Sigma Delta Pi, the National Collegiate Hispanic Honor Society.



The Order of Don Quijote recognizes exceptional and meritorious service in the fields of Hispanic scholarship, the teaching of Spanish, and the promotion of good relations between the English-speaking and Spanish-speaking worlds.

A prolific and distinguished critic, Dr. González-Pérez is currently Professor of Modern Latin American Literature at Yale University. On April 13th at the Golda Meir Library, he presented the talk: "In Search of the Sacred Book: Religion and the Novel in Gabriel García Márquez's *One Hundred Years of Solitude*", a lecture honoring the great Colombian author one year after his passing.



Alumni news

Here is what some of our alumni are doing, and we would love to hear from you too. Please send your news to wheatley@uwm.edu so that we can include you in future newsletters.

Mary Ellen Kohn-Buday (BA in Spanish-1982, MA in MAFFL-Spanish concentration-1985) earned her PhD in 1994 from the U. of Illinois-Urbana Champaign. She is a professor at Mount Mary University and chair of the Department of World Languages.

Vicki Bermúdez (BA in Spanish 2008) is certified by the Supreme Court of Wisconsin as a legal interpreter and she works in courts in the Milwaukee metropolitan area.

Erika Almenara (MA in Spanish 2009) is completing her PhD at the University of Michigan.

Laura Jara (MA in Spanish 2010) returned to Argentina and teaches at the post-secondary level.

Amy Olen (MA in Spanish 2010) just completed her PhD at the University of Texas-Austin, and she is currently teaching courses in Spanish at UWM.

Jackie Dreyer (BA in Spanish and English 2011) taught English as an "auxiliary de conversación" for two years in Spain, and is now working as a copywriter for a luxury vacation accommodation website in Seville.

El Profesor Ferreira reconocido como Miembro Correspondiente de la Academia Peruana de la Lengua

Nancy Bird-Soto

El Profesor César Ferreira ha recibido el honor de ser elegido Miembro Correspondiente de la Academia Peruana de la Lengua en noviembre 2014. El presidente de dicha entidad, el erudito Ricardo Silva-Santisteban, postuló a Ferreira a la nominación.

La Academia Peruana de la Lengua fue fundada en 1887 por Ricardo Palma. Su misión es preservar la lengua, estudiarla en sus contextos históricos, como también lo es divulgar la literatura peruana. Consiste de cerca de cincuenta académicos y se presentan las nominaciones de membresía a la misma cuando hay candidatos viables.

Conversé con el Profesor Ferreira al respecto y le pregunté sobre sus afinidades por la literatura latinoamericana. Cuenta el académico que desde pequeño siempre le gustó leer y escribir, lo que le sirvió de inspiración para cursar estudios en letras y periodismo en Estados Unidos. Más tarde, se doctoró en Letras Hispanoamericanas por la Universidad de Texas en Austin, uno de los programas más grandes en el país. Allí tuvo la suerte de ser alumno del catedrático Aníbal González-Pérez como uno de sus profesores.

En cuanto a sus autores favoritos, Ferreira dice que se siente afortunado de haber coincidido generacionalmente con los grandes escritores del Boom. Exalta además la presencia de Mario Vargas Llosa como modelo de escritor y como figura pública en el Perú. Ferreira también disfruta de enseñar obras del Boom, así como de transmitir su entusiasmo por el conocimiento de la narrativa latinoamericana en general. Una de sus obras favoritas, tanto para leer como para enseñar, es *Cien años de soledad*.

Más adelante este año, la Academia Peruana de la Lengua le otorgará un diploma y una medalla por la distinción recibida. ¡Enhorabuena!

FACULTY AND STAFF NEWS

Dr. Nancy Bird-Soto published “Felinidad concordante: Breve vistazo al gato en la literatura y otras artes” in the *Felina* anthology (San Juan: Editorial La Tuerca), and the article: “Una noble amistad: *Luz y sombra* de Ana Roque” in *Cuadrivium* (Primavera 2015): 103-108. She presented “Una revolución íntima en *Feminist and Abolitionist: The Story of Emilia Casanova*” at the V Congreso Internacional Escritura, Individuo y Sociedad at the University of Puerto Rico in Arecibo in March. In April, she guest lectured at UW-Whitewater. In May, she participated at the 46th Annual NeMLA Convention in Toronto, Canada, where she presented at two panels. One was a paper with the title: “*Lucas Guevara* and the failure of the flâneur” and the other was a talk about her “Minne-memoir” *Put Together*. Bird-Soto also made her debut as a member of the UW Placement Exam Committee at the two-day meeting at UW-Madison in April. She continues to be a guest columnist for *Revista Cruce* (online).

Dr. César Ferreira presented the paper “Alvaro Mutis, hijo de la lluvia: notas a su poesía,” at the 68th Annual Kentucky Foreign Language Conference, University of Kentucky, Lexington, Kentucky (April 2015). He was also a guest lecturer at the Mundo Mondays Lecture Series sponsored by the Center for International Education of Berea College in Kentucky in March 2015 where he presented the talk “On Reading Autobiographical Writing in Latin America: The Case of Mario Vargas Llosa and Gabriel García Márquez”. Ferreira also published a book review on the anthology titled “Beings: Contemporary Peruvian Short Stories.” *World Literature Today* Vol. 89 No. 1 (January-February 2015): 62.

Dr. Sandra Sousa published “‘War is not measured by uniforms or rifles’: Resisting Portuguese colonial wars through ‘marginal’ sexual behaviors,” in *Transmordernity: Journal of Peripheral Cultural Production of the Luso-Hispanic World*. In February 2015 she was invited to contribute an article, “Portugal Segundo os Estados Unidos da América,” to the edited volume *Portugal Segundo a Europa* (Coord. José Eduardo Franco, João Relvão Caetano, Carlos Leone, Béata Cieszyńska. Lisboa: CLEPUL, Faculdade de Letras da Universidade de Lisboa, Instituto Europeu de Ciências da Cultura Padre Manuel Antunes). Also, Sousa delivered a talk titled “‘Ursos,’ ‘Palermas’ ou Soviéticos?: Socialismo e Capitalismo em AvóDezanove e o segredo do Soviético de Ondjaki” at the XII Congresso Luso-Afro-Brasileiro held at the Universidade Nova de Lisboa (February 2015). With Tom Lewis she presented “Para Além da Divisão Norte/Sul em Epistemologia e Política Emancipatória” as part of a roundtable on “The Struggle for Recognition: The Hispano-American Novel in the 21st Century” at the 46th Annual NeMLA Convention held in Toronto, Canada (April-May 2015). She organized the campus guest lecture, “Lisbon Stories: Migration, Citizenship, and Intercultural Relations among Africans, Brazilians, Eastern Europeans, and Portuguese in Contemporary Cinema and Literature,” presented by professor and researcher Fernando Arenas (University of Michigan). Together with **Iván Espinosa Orozco** and **María Fernanda Valerio Capella**, Sousa organized the departmental film series, “Foreign Flix.”

Ester Suárez-Felipe, **Kathleen Wheatley**, and **Magaly Zeise** presented “Lesson Study-Acquisition of the written accent mark by Heritage Speakers of Spanish” at the 2015 OPID Spring Conference.

Graduate students

Mario Sánchez Gumiel presented “El orientalismo español en el cine estadounidense: el caso de Pandora and the Flying Dutchman (Albert Lewin, 1951)” at the 20th Annual Students' Conference, Department of Hispanic and Luso-Brazilian Literatures and Languages - CUNY The Graduate Center. April 24th-25th, 2015.

NEWSLETTER EDITOR: NANCY BIRD-SOTO

Portuguese Program at UWM

Report by Sandra Sousa

“Bate-Papo” continues to be organized by the wonderful student organization, “Portuguese Conversation Group,” and meets every Thursday during Spring 2015 at 7 pm at Colectivo on Prospect St. Thanks to the students’ creativity and enthusiasm, Bate-Papo now often includes a variety of activities. During the month of February, students made Valentine’s cards at Colectivo, and on April 2 they celebrated Easter with chocolate eggs. Brazilian students at UWM participate regularly in Bate-Papo and contribute greatly to its success. A big shout out to them in recognition of and thanks for their support!

This semester students in the Portuguese Program participated in the Portuguese-language soccer team alongside a couple of talented Brazilian players. The activity was a great success, not only in terms of building student camaraderie and speaking Portuguese, but also because “Os Revolucionários” won the soccer championship in the coed division! High-fives to all the fantastic soccer players who made this a truly fun learning experience (despite the bruises!). The Foreign Flix Series was also a success, drawing significant student attendance at screenings and valuable student involvement in movie discussions. The Brazilian Cultural Club (<https://www.facebook.com/BCCatUWM>) hosted an event on March 28 celebrating Brazil’s Carnival. Thank you to the Brazilian Cultural Club for organizing events such as this one, which so effectively promote the Portuguese language and Brazilian Culture.

Thank you to all the students who participated in the Language Fair and who helped to promote the Portuguese program during the semester. Two students, Brandon Berthiaume and Bryan Rogers, worked as research assistants under the auspices of a National Undergraduate Research Project in the LRC. Their jobs consisted of creating and developing learning materials for the Portuguese language. Because of their efforts the Portuguese Program now has a wider variety of materials that students can use to learn the language. Seven students of Portuguese were awarded scholarships and will be traveling to Portugal, Brazil and Mozambique to study Portuguese and to develop their knowledge of the Lusophone world. For updates on the Portuguese Program visit: <https://www.facebook.com/UWMPortugueseProgram>.

A Big Thank You of Farewell

It has only been a year, or more accurately, two semesters, that I had the pleasure of working at the Department of Spanish and Portuguese. I said many times, to many different people, that it felt like I had been here my entire life. This comment was made not because of that tired feeling that we get when we’ve spent too much time in a place, but rather because of the way colleagues, staff and students made me feel at home. UWM, and Milwaukee the city, I feel, will always be my home—one of many, but nonetheless my Midwest home. Without mentioning any names, since the list would be too long, I would like to thank all of you who made my experience at UWM a unique and unforgettable one. To my students—the number one reason why I have cherished this job—a big thank you for making my days special: for your trust, your friendship, your love of learning, and your belief that we can make this a better world.

—Sandra Sousa



Sigma Delta Pi - Spring 2015 Initiation Ceremony

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE NEW MEMBERS:

Brenda Andrade, Brandon Berthiaume, Hannah Blanchard, Gina Bulman, Amanda Domer, Bárbara Gasquet Carrera, Karen Margarita Henao Carbonell, Aric Kasel, Kameron D. Knapp-Harris, Sergio López Ramos, Patrick McCue, Ruth Otero Carballa, Verónica Pérez-Gómez, Elizabeth Spektor, Kate Young, Jeynee Zavala

Outstanding Undergraduate Achievement Scholarship: Geena Fendt

Meta M. Steinfort Scholarship: Brandon Berthiaume

