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# APUNTES

DEPARTMENT OF SPANISH AND PORTUGUESE  
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MILWAUKEE

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## EL DICCIONARIO DEL ESPAÑOL DE MÉXICO

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By Kathleen Wheatley

On April 26, 2023, the Department of Spanish and Portuguese, in collaboration with the Mexican Consulate in Milwaukee, had the pleasure of welcoming Professor Francisco Segovia to UWM to give a talk on the creation and ongoing development of the *Diccionario del Español de México*, a *Colegio de México* project on which he has worked since 1978. Professor Segovia has participated in many monolingual and bilingual dictionary projects and has collaborated on many Mexican television programs related to the Spanish Language. He has worked as an editor for several journals both in Mexico and in Spain, and he writes a monthly column for the *Periódico de Poesía*, an electronic journal published by UNAM. He has worked on several translations in México and in Spain, is the author of a number of books of poetry and essays, and has taught classes and workshops on literature, writing and literary creation at many universities and cultural institutions in México.

Professor Segovia gave a very engaging presentation on the history and complexities of creating this dictionary, which is now available online at <https://dem.colmex.mx/>. Attendees included UWM students and faculty, representatives from the Mexican Consulate, and members of the community. I would like to personally thank Norma Sánchez Arellanes, in the Office of Cultural, Economic, Trade and Tourism Promotion, who has collaborated with our department on this and other events since the establishment of the Mexican Consulate in Milwaukee in 2016.



Kathleen Wheatley, Francisco Segovia, and César Ferreira, holding the two volumes gifted to UWM of the 2010 edition of the *Diccionario del español de México*.

## STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN “SHARK TANK”

By Allison Libbey and Laura Martinez Geijo Roman

Students in Spanish 332 (Using Spanish in the Business World) had a new final project this year. Their instructor, Laura Martinez Geijo Roman, decided to put their knowledge of the business world to the test by having them work in groups to create and pitch a business that would be based somewhere in the Spanish-speaking world. During the final week of classes, each group presented their pitch in a competition based on the TV show *Shark Tank*. The “sharks” who listened to their presentations, gave feedback, and ultimately awarded (pretend) funding to three of the groups were Spanish Language Coordinator Allison Libbey and Department Chair Kathleen Wheatley.

The groups came up with a number of creative ideas including: a safety-focused app for cyclists, a device/app that helps prevent food waste, a safety-focused ride-sharing app for female passengers, a device to test water quality and ensure safe drinking water, and a toothpaste that helps energize you for your day. All five groups did an excellent job presenting their pitches and incorporating the concepts and vocabulary they learned over the course of the semester.



*The overall winning team: Agua sin preocupaciones*



*Ciclo conmigo (left) and Eclipse (right) also both won “funding” for their products.*



*Princesas Pasajeras (left) and Nevera Nutritiva (right) presenting their innovative ideas.*

## CAMPUS VISIT FROM PERUVIAN FILM DIRECTOR

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By César Ferreira

Peruvian film director and writer Rossana Díaz Costa visited UWM on April 14-21, 2023. A professor of film at the Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú, Díaz Costa is considered one of the most talented new filmmakers to come out of Latin America in recent years. Her latest film, *Un mundo para Julius/A World for Julius*, was screened as part of the 44<sup>th</sup> Latin American Film Series at UWM on Saturday, April 15<sup>th</sup>. It was followed by a conversation with the audience where Díaz Costa shared some details on the making of her film, an adaptation of Alfredo Bryce Echenique's novel *Un mundo para Julius*, first published in Barcelona in 1970 and later in English by the University of Wisconsin Press in 2006. On Thursday, April 20<sup>th</sup> Díaz Costa also spoke to students enrolled in the Survey of Spanish-American Literature (Spanish 472) on her short fiction.



*Professor Rossana Díaz Costa addresses students in Spanish 472 during her visit to UWM in April 2023.*

## SIGMA DELTA PI INDUCTS NEW MEMBERS

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By Allison Libbey and César Ferreira

On April 28, Sigma Delta Pi hosted its spring initiation ceremony, welcoming ten new students into the national Spanish honor society. The ceremony was led by Professor Ferreira and Epsilon Iota Chapter President Jesús Velarde-Moctezuma, and it included readings of poems by Pablo Neruda, Antonio Machado, and Lucha Corpi.



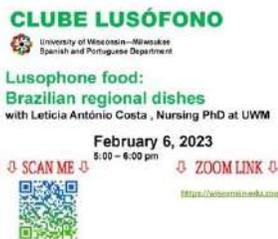
*Front row (from left): Michele Haeblerin, Lucy Rose Mattern, Sara Dharani, Samantha Calderón, Bergen Hermanson.  
Back row (from left): Braden Andersen, Antonio Jesús Rubio, Skylar Lincoln, Anna Blohm, Ian Shoppach*

# PORTUGUESE PROGRAM NEWS

By Susana Antunes and Allison Libbey

Our next edition of *O Canto do Mar* will be available soon! This issue will have a special section on “Celestial bodies” celebrating the Planetarium Centennial. A special thanks to Ryan Ammerman for all of his hard work on this edition! And thank you so much to all the CONTRIBUTORS!! Without you *O Canto do Mar* 7 would not have been possible!

Clube Lusófono partnered with this semester’s Portuguese 360 class (Discovering Lusophone Culture Through Food) to host a series of guest speakers. These members of the UWM and greater Milwaukee community spoke with students and other participants about their own connections to food as well as topics related to science and society. Here’s what three students had to say about what they learned:



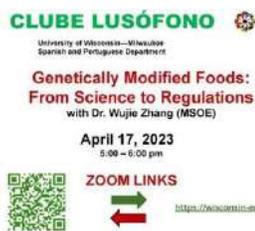
As part of my Luso-Brazilian Culture class (Port 360), I had the pleasure of hearing Leticia António Costa speak about the regional cuisine of Brazil. To my pleasant surprise, I learned that Leticia is from the state of Mato Grosso do Sul in Brazil - where my family is from as well! I learned so much from Leticia about how the geography, climates, and demographics/cultures of all of Brazil's (26) states influence and determine the unique cuisine and dishes that comprise their respective heritages.

Gianna Rupnick, Port 360

Dr. Monica Olague is a Mexican lady that shared her love and thoughts about Brazilian becoming her comfort food. She made a fantastic presentation and shared her personal life with us, on how she fell in love with Brazilian cuisine. One thing that stood out to me was the way she stepped out of her comfort zone and explored and experienced the Brazilian cuisine. I could relate to this because I am a Mexican student stepping out of my comfort zone and learning the Portuguese language, and to also further my understanding of the Lusophone world.



Luis Dimitri Piceno, Port 360

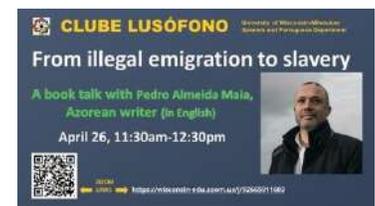


For the Clube Lusófono, I was able to attend a speech by Dr. Wuijie Zhang who is from MSOE. For this week, he taught us about genetically-modified foods: From Science to Regulations. Genetically engineered foods have had their DNA changed using genes from other plants or animals. Most of the development of genetically modified crops are aimed at benefiting the farmers bottom line which includes increasing yields, resisting pests and disease, and decreasing the use of the herbicides. Potential benefits include improved productivity which could result in

more food from less land, genetically engineered pests and disease resistance could reduce the need for pesticides and other chemicals, and potential longer shelf life of fruits and vegetables.

Dani Steiner, Port 699

On April 26th 2023, Azorean author Pedro Almeida Maia joined the Clube Lusofóno (Portuguese Club) to discuss his most recent book, *A Escrava Açoriana*, 2022 (The Azorean Slave). Set at the end of the 19th century, his book explores themes of immigration and slavery from the Azores Islands off the coast of Portugal, to Brazil. Pedro gave attendees a deeper look into the culture and history of the Azores and how the islands have uniquely evolved over time.



Samuel Orlowski, Port 699

## TELETANDEM: CONTINUING FACILITATING THE PORTUGUESE LEARNING PROCESS

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By Susana Antunes

As a result of a partnership established between the Portuguese program at UW-Milwaukee and the São Paulo State University, Araraquara, Brazil, this semester, Portuguese 104 and 204 students had the opportunity to continue participating in the Teletandem Brazil project, from April 4th to April 25th, for a total of 5 hours through ZOOM videoconference. During the sessions, students practiced Portuguese in a real context and collaborated in the English learning process with their Brazilian partners. All the students who have participated in the Teletandem project received a certificate from the Department of Modern Languages School of Sciences and Languages at São Paulo State University, Araraquara. Here's what some students had to say about the experience:

"Teletandem was a great experience for me. I was able to learn so many new words and better my pronunciation. I did like how we were able to meet one on one with native Portuguese speakers... I also did like how friendly Mariana was, the native speaker I talked with, and do imagine that all the people involved were very nice. I hope that the Portuguese department continues this for the future students in this class as it was to the great benefit of my language learning. Obrigado!!!"

Marko Pavlovic, Port 104

"I had a wonderful time doing Teletandem. I learned new phrases that can be used in Brazil. I learned new techniques to learn Portuguese for example certain movies, music, and videos. During my experience in Teletandem I helped Portuguese students to learn English phrases that are used in the daily life of someone who speaks English. Overall, I would recommend it to anyone else."

Yanelis Santiago, Port 104

"I really enjoyed Teletandem and thought it was a very good, useful, and fun experience. It was fantastic to hear a group of Brazilians talking because I've never been in that kind of situation before. Also, I really enjoyed listening to them speaking English because they spoke very well and it was good to be able to help them sometimes. I also liked that the people I interacted with were studying a variety of things, so we were able to talk about many topics like biology and languages. I think if more college-level students had an experience like this one, they would feel more confident speaking the foreign language they wanted to learn. I know that in many foreign language classes it is not very common to have contact with a native speaker besides the teacher and that is why they do not develop their speech so much. It would be nice if this program could be implemented in all language courses, but I know it would be very difficult to do this."

Ethan Frank, Port 204

## FACULTY AND STAFF

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**Susana L. M. Antunes** was recognized for excellent teaching by The Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (CETL), Fall 2022. In March she was the co-chair of a roundtable at the *NeMLA's 54th Annual Convention American* on "Family and war: resilience, affections, and power in luso-hispanic literature and arts". In April she presented a paper called "O movimento da eternidade em *Kilêlê - A Dança Sagrada do Falcão*, de Olinda Beja" at *I Congresso Internacional de literaturas africanas em perspectiva: homenagem a Olinda Beja* hosted by Universidade Federal da Fronteira Sul (UFFS), Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil (online). She was also invited by the University of Cape Verde, Santiago, to give an online talk on "A Escrita Criativa nas Aulas de Português L2". The talk focused on the writing

process developed through the past 7 years in Portuguese classes related to the Portuguese creative journal *O Canto do Mar*. She had two publications come out this semester: “*Cais-do-Sodré Té Salamansa: Existências à margem nos contos de Orlanda Amarílis*” (Maria da Conceição Guimarães, co-author). *Faces de Eva. Estudos sobre a Mulher*. Nº. 48, (Feb.2023), pp. 98-112. [http://scielo.pt/scielo.php?script=sci\\_arttext&pid=S0874-68852022000200098&lng=en&nrm=iso&tlng=pt](http://scielo.pt/scielo.php?script=sci_arttext&pid=S0874-68852022000200098&lng=en&nrm=iso&tlng=pt) and “A Escrita nas Aulas de Português L2: Um Estudo de Caso”. *Portuguese Language Journal*. American Organization of Teachers of Portuguese (AOTP). Vol. 16 (Fall 2022), pp. 1-12. <https://doi.org/10.56515/PLJ562476689>

**Nancy Bird-Soto** published the essay “Reading Luisa Capetillo” per invitation in *Small Axe* (Duke University Press) 69 (2022): 74-83. As well, the limited print edition of *Luisa Capetillo: Escalando la tribuna* (Amy Olen as translator) was published in March of 2023. The book launch took place virtually on Friday, April 21st, with Beatriz Llenín Figueroa as the moderator and Jorell Meléndez-Badillo as the presenter, in conversation with Olen and Bird-Soto. The digital version of the book has been available since December 2022 via the Editora Educación Emergente portal. In March of this year, Prof. Bird-Soto published a book review for *Decolonial Puerto Rican Women's Writings: Subversion in the Flesh*. Roberta Hurtado. Cham, Switzerland: Palgrave Macmillan, 2019 (ISBN: 978-3-030-05730-5) in *Hypatia*: <https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/hypatia/article/decolonial-puerto-rican-womens-writings-subversion-in-the-flesh-roberta-hurtado-cham-switzerland-palgrave-macmillan-2019-isbn-9783030057305/440A5FD3A7E32232A920B88076BE72CC> . As a



<https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/hypatia/article/decolonial-puerto-rican-womens-writings-subversion-in-the-flesh-roberta-hurtado-cham-switzerland-palgrave-macmillan-2019-isbn-9783030057305/440A5FD3A7E32232A920B88076BE72CC> . As a contribution to the on-going dialogues about the use of terms like Latinx and the uses of the -e and -x in Spanish for more inclusivity, she published a piece titled “Latines y generacionx” in *Revista Cruce - Soy porque somos: mujeres, raza, género e identidades en expresión* (marzo 2023): pp. 62-67; [https://issuu.com/revistacruce/docs/cruce - soy porque somos - mujeres raza genero e](https://issuu.com/revistacruce/docs/cruce_-_soy_porque_somos_-_mujeres_raza_genero_e). On April 17th, Prof. Deborah Dorotinsky Alperstein (UNAM) visited Nancy’s seminar, Contact Zones in Latin American literature, and guest lectured about visual cultures and

depictions of the tehuana figure.

Dr. **César Ferreira** published the volume *Miguel Hernández and César Vallejo: Versos en convergencia* (Instituto Cervantes/Diputación de Jaén, 2023). The book was presented by Luis García Montero, director of the Instituto Cervantes, at the IX Congreso Internacional de la Lengua Española that took place in Cádiz, Spain in March 2023. Professor Ferreira was also invited to speak in Cádiz on “La novela peruana y la construcción de una literatura nacional: El caso de *País de Jauja* de Edgardo Rivera Martínez.” He also published the article “Travesías y regresos: los mundos de Alfredo Bryce Echenique” in *Historia de las literaturas en el Perú-Volumen V: La narrativa peruana contemporánea. Cuento y novela (1920-2000)*. Jorge Marcón y José Alberto Portugal, editores. Lima: Casa de la Literatura Peruana/Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú, 2022: 207-230.



Professor **Gabriel Rei-Doval** presented “Pasado e presente dos estudos galegos nos Estados Unidos” in the *Colloquium Galicia-USA*, organized by *Mundo Atlántico* on March 25, 2023. Such online event will be soon available in the social media. He has also continued working in the collaborative research project on Ideologies of language contact, led by the University of Santiago de Compostela and funded by the Spanish Government. As part of his continued creative writing project *Viaxes sen Lee*, he has most recently published on Galicia Confidencial the following articles: [A tiro limpo](#) (1/15/2023), [O fino senso das augas](#) (2/26/2023), [Motel California](#) (3/18/2023), and [California en carne viva](#) (4/30/2023). His textbook *Principios de lingüística hispánica* is scheduled to be published in 2024 by Georgetown University Press.

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## LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

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From Kathy Wheatley  
Chair, Department of Spanish and Portuguese  
May, 2023



In the December newsletter, I asked alumni to share their stories with me, and there is one response that I would like to share in this message, because it is a great example of someone who has benefitted from her proficiency in Spanish throughout her life, both professionally and personally.

Linda Ondrejka Paul graduated from UWM in 1961 and taught Spanish at the junior high and high school levels. Continuing to pursue her interests in literature and art history, she received an MA in Ibero-American Studies from UW-Madison in 1967. While she worked at Westinghouse Learning Corporation, she often served as a translator for visiting business associates from Mexico. Her proficiency in Spanish also enriched her experiences traveling throughout Latin America and Spain.

So, as we close the Spring 2023 semester, I want to congratulate our students who are graduating with a Spanish MA, Spanish Major, Spanish Minor, Business Spanish Minor, Portuguese Minor or Spanish for Health Professionals Certificate, and hope that you will find that your study of the literatures, cultures and linguistics of the Spanish and Portuguese-speaking world will continue to be an important part of the rest of your life.

Please send me your story ([wheatley@uwm.edu](mailto:wheatley@uwm.edu)) about what you have done since graduating from UWM so that I can share these stories in the alumni news of future editions of *Apuntes*.

Sincerely,  
Kathleen Wheatley