Welcome to a new and improved Interlingua! The past year and a half have brought a number of changes to the department. First among these is the fact that our former chair, Spanish Professor Brent Carbajal, has been appointed Dean of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences. While he now must oversee a wide variety of interests in numerous departments, we continue to believe that his heart is still in Modern and Classical Languages. However, the end of his second term as a most effective department chair required that we seek new leadership. I was elected to leap into that void and have now been serving the department as chair for eighteen months. A new faculty union contract, budget crises, and a new university administration have all impacted the ways in which we work together. In addition, several new tenure-track and non-tenure-track faculty have brought fresh perspectives to our workplace and to our programs. At present, we are 23 tenured or tenure-track faculty and 16 non-tenure-track faculty in Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Greek, Japanese, Latin, Russian, and Spanish. John Underwood, professor of Spanish and Linguistics, as well as Director of the Media Center, is retiring in March of this year. He will be missed by students and faculty alike. Our faculty also direct and teach in the Linguistics program, East Asian Studies, and Classical Studies. Students in the department pursue programs of study within the department and related programs, but also in International Business, Anthropology, Political Science, Music, and many other fields where their language and culture skills are applicable. They also participate in study-abroad and internship opportunities in many places around the world as part of their commitment to bridging communities across borders and language barriers.

While many foreign-language departments across the country are facing programmatic cuts that have impacted not only students’ curricular choice but the very heart of the liberal arts education, Western’s Department of Modern and Classical Languages’ challenging language and culture programs at the undergraduate level continue to grow. All of our programs are actually bursting at the seams as a result of our talented faculty and motivated student population. On the other hand, last year’s state-wide budget cuts to education have also had their impact, resulting in: the loss of some non-tenure-track language instructors, fewer course offerings for the remainder of the 2009-2011 biennium, and a moratorium on faculty hires and curricular growth that were years in the making.

Despite these challenges, the faculty and students of Modern and Classical Languages is a community with high hopes for the future. We are striving to do our best work for and with our students, each other, and the university at large. We intend to participate actively in the internationalization project that Western is currently contemplating. We are also reaching out to other programs and colleges on campus in order to build a broader interdisciplinary focus. Finally, the department itself is looking inwardly to see what it might do to respond to external pressures while maintaining the quality of its programs.

– Vicki Hamblin, Chair, Professor of French

Thank you, everybody, for all your contributions! You have helped make this newsletter revival a success!
Hi, I’m Scott Taylor. I am a southern transplant from East Tennessee who came to the Northwest in 2001 where I began my teaching career as an instructor of French at Portland Community College in Portland, Oregon. I hold a PhD in French Literature and Critical Theory from Florida State University (2003) and a Master’s and Bachelor’s degree from the University of Tennessee. I specialize in Contemporary French Theatre, Performance Studies, and Semiotics, and have published most recently in the *Journal of Dramatic Theory and Criticism* and in *Modern Drama*.

Prior to coming to WWU, I was a visiting assistant professor of French at both the University of Puget Sound and Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma. I spent nearly 3 years living, traveling, studying, and working in both France and Belgium, where, among other things, I served as an English lecturer at the Université de Paris – La Sorbonne IV, and as an English assistant in a French high school in Lens, France.

In addition to my teaching and research, I enjoy creative writing (including poetry, prose, essays, adaptations, and translations), as well as directing plays. I have directed shows in both French and English, most recently with Steeplechase Productions in Seattle and at PLU. I also volunteer with the Alliance Française de Seattle, where I lead a monthly film screening and discussion group. My other interests include swimming, biking, music, and spending time with friends and loved ones.

Welcome New Faculty!

[While only part of the MCL team for a short while (Fall Quarter 2009 to be exact), Sarah Rowan was always ready for a laugh and a cheerful hello in the hallway. We are fortunate to have had her provide us with this short bio.]

I was born in Louisville, KY, but have lived and traveled in several places in my adult life. I spent a great deal of time in Spain in my twenties and still am very connected to friends there who I consider to be “mi familia.” I received my M.A. in Spanish Literature at the University of Louisville. While working on my PhD at the University of Oregon in post-colonial Caribbean literature, two babies came along (not at the same time), which re-directed my focus to being a part-time instructor in order to spend more time with them. My family moved back to Louisville, Kentucky in 2001 to be with family for a few years, and I began a language school with which I am still very much involved. We moved to Bellingham in June of 2007 and have loved every minute of it. Teaching at Western this fall has been a great experience, and it’s wonderful to be back in the university setting, and with such great students. I love to run and bike the trails, kayak, camp, ski, and anything else that takes me outdoors.
My name is Kirsten Drickey. I came to Western from the University of Kansas where I completed my graduate work. I have always enjoyed traveling and learning about other cultures; I spent a year in the Dominican Republic immediately before college. Two of my favorite parts of the world are Mexico and the Caribbean, and my academic interests include film and novels from these regions. When I'm not busy delving into the mysteries of language and literature with my Spanish 301 students, I like to hike, read, and cook. One of my favorite authors is Sherman Alexie, so it was a treat to see him this fall at the Performing Arts Center. I have also been learning how to fly fish. My progress has been slow with regard to the actual catching of fish, but it's been a great way to spend time outside in various parts of Washington. I've also enjoyed learning about the area from my students. They've been coaching me on Washington geography and culture, including detailed descriptions of the many categories of rain.

My name is Yong-Taek Kim. I was born and raised in Seoul, Korea. I majored in English language and literature during my undergraduate program at Yonsei University in Korea, and linguistics during both my Master’s program at Sophia University in Japan and my PhD program at the University of Oregon. I'm interested in cognitive, typological, and historical linguistics. I have been working on the relation between language and thought. The title of my dissertation is 'Event Construal and Its Linguistic Encoding: Towards an Extended Semantic Map Model.' It is an investigation of the interaction between verbs and constructions within a cognitive linguistics approach. Specifically, I investigate what verb or verb phrases can or cannot occur in the English verb-at-construction, (e.g., (X) he carved at the turkey vs. (O) he was carving away at the turkey).

I came to Bellingham on September 1, 2009 with my wife (Sangeun) and son (Puroom). Sangeun is working on her dissertation on Special Education. Puroom goes to Happy Valley Elementary School. He is a kindergartener and loves his school.
Western now offers a two year Arabic program (6 courses - 5 credits each), all taught by the magnificent Linda Istanbulli.

Each of these classes meets five times per week. Modern Standard Arabic is the chief medium of instruction, but daily phrases from Egyptian colloquial Arabic are taught simultaneously. We are pleased and excited to announce that as of Fall 2010, the Department of Liberal Studies will offer an Arabic & Islamic Studies minor of which the 15-credit, second-year language series is a main component!

中文

A Chinese Language Scholarship has been established by the family of Dr. Edward Kaplan in his memory. It recognizes his contributions to the teaching of Chinese history at WWU and also notes how he encouraged his students to study Chinese language. Mrs. Susan Kaplan met for refreshments and conversation with the scholarship award winners for the 2009-2010 academic year. They include Matthew Earnest, Wanyoung Lee, Ian Nelson, Daniel Persche, Elizabeth Russell, and Ryan Snook, all of whom are second-year Chinese language students.

Celebrate China, a week of events at the time of the Chinese New Year, was celebrated in 2009 with lectures, music, art, food, and cultural enjoyment. The Year of the Tiger begins on February 14, 2010. Classroom and campus-wide events are being scheduled

**AMAZING ANAGRAMS!!**

- Dormitory == Dirty Room
- Desperation == A Rope Ends It
- The Morse Code == Here Come Dots
- Slot Machines == Cash Lost in ‘em
- Animosity == Is No Amity
- Snooze Alarms == Alas! No More Z’s
for the celebration. More information can be found in the Upcoming Events section of this newsletter.

The Bellingham Chinese Festival Concert is scheduled for Saturday, February 27 at 7:00 pm at the Mt. Baker Theater in Bellingham. This third biennial concert highlights traditional Chinese musical instruments, song, and dance. Performers from China, Canada, and the USA will again bring professional entertainment to Bellingham. The town and gown event includes Chinese program planning representatives Kathleen Tomlonovic and Lilly Yang. Once again, Lilly Yang will contribute as the Master of Ceremonies for the event.

Chi-ming Yang, associate professor at the University of Pennsylvania, presented a lecture “Global Chinoiserie and the Transatlantic Slave Trade” for the Chinese Language and East Asian Studies Programs. We are proud that during her time in Bellingham with her parents, Ho-chin and Ellen Yang, she returned to speak to students and faculty. She recalled her WWU Chinese language studies as a Sehome High Running Start student in 1992.

Janet Xing continues to teach Chinese language and linguistics courses in the department. She was on sabbatical leave in Winter and Spring 2009, during which time she taught a graduate course and conducted research at the Graduate Institute of Teaching Chinese as a Foreign Language, National Taiwan Normal University, Taiwan. While she was in Taiwan, she was also invited to give talks and lectures at various universities. Currently, she is back teaching on campus and working on two book projects: one is an edited volume on historical Chinese linguistics and the other is a monograph on the contrastive approach of pedagogical grammar of Chinese.

Kathleen Tomlonovic coordinates and teaches in the Chinese Language program. She also teaches East Asian Studies courses in Chinese literature, East Asian cultural history, and research methods for majors. During her academic leave in fall quarter 2008 she conducted research at Sichuan University in Chengdu and spent several weeks at the research center for the Su Family of Meishan, China. She is writing a monograph on this literary family and has continued to give lectures at conferences in the USA and China.

The Chinese Language program’s annual Calligraphy Exhibit was directed by Ho-chin Yang in May. All students introduced their calligraphic work; award winners were selected. Once again this year, students benefited from a demonstration by the noted calligrapher Kathy Pak, who also attended the campus showing.

An language professor complained to the pet shop proprietor: “The parrot I purchased uses improper language.”

“I’m surprised,” said the owner. “I’ve never taught that bird to swear.”

“Oh, it isn’t that,” explained the professor. “But yesterday I heard him split an infinitive.”
Classics faculty Eduardo Engelsing, Byron Stayskal, and Diane Johnson continue to offer Greek and Latin language classes along with the full battery of Classical Studies courses. But they have some exciting new additions to the Classics catalogue: ClSt 401 Sanskrit, and ClSt 410 Proto-Indo-European Roots of Greek and Latin, both of which have already generated quite a lot of interest among our language students as well as the general university community. The program is also looking forward to offering a third year of Latin language beginning in the 2010-11 term: Latin 340 will survey the ancient Republican and Imperial authors, Latin 341 will introduce students to some of the Medieval authors as well as Latin Paleography, and Latin 342 will focus upon Humanist Latin of the Renaissance, Reformation, and Modern periods. Also, stay tuned for a study-abroad mini-course at Athens beginning in September 2010!

Under the direction of Eduardo Engelsing, the Mensa Latina or Latin table attracts between ten and twenty-five students every week during the quarter. Students have also been attending bi-monthly Saturdays in Seattle, visiting with other Latin speakers as they tour the various attractions Seattle has to offer.

Our students have also read papers at Willamette University’s annual Undergraduate Classics Conference. In 2008, Samantha Toman and Joseph Olson presented their research on Statius and Petronius, respectively; in 2009 Andrew Shelton and Nathan Oglesby spoke on ethnicity in Egypt and interpretations of Roman poets as Rap artists. We are very proud of our students’ work and are pleased to follow the progress of Classical languages majors and minors now in graduate programs: Mary Jane Cuyler (U Texas Austin), Aaron Irvin (UCLA), Rachel Fisher (Boston U), Russell Hugo (U Washington), Peter van der Puy (Brasenose College, Oxford), and Joseph Olson (U Kentucky). We are especially proud of 2008 graduate Chelsea Campbell (designed major in Classical Languages), whose novel The Rise of Renegade X will appear in May 2010.

For more information on the many things our section is involved in, please check out the Classics activities at our home page at http://www.wwu.edu/mcl/classical/
Edouard Ousselin’s book, *The Invention of Europe in French Literature and Film*, was published in March 2009 (Palgrave Macmillan). Prof. Ousselin, who was promoted to full professor in February 2010, is currently participating in a first-year French-language textbook project, *Liaisons*, to be published by Cengage Heinle in 2010. He was also designated Editor-in-Chief of the *French Review*, with his three-year term beginning in July 2010.

**THIS ANAGRAM’S AMAZING:**

“That’s one small step for a man, one giant leap for mankind.” -- Neil A. Armstrong

Which becomes:

A thin man ran; makes a large stride; left planet, pins flag on moon! On to Mars!

Cécile Hanania was on sabbatical during the 2008-2009 academic year. The research for her monograph on the French author Marguerite Duras (born in 1914 in former Indochina) led her to Vietnam and Cambodia. She spent a month and a half researching the sites where Duras lived in her youth and studying the reception of the writer in the two countries. From Northern Vietnam to Southern Cambodia, she explored book stores, libraries, cultural centers, archives departments, and universities. While in Cambodia, she spent time at the Royal University of Phnom Penh where she met Prof. Mao Bunneang, head of the French department, and his class of advanced students in French.

Prof. Hanania presented a detailed account of her trip and findings at a conference devoted to Duras and the Orient, held at the University of Tohoku in Sendai (Japan) in September 2009. Some of her photographs will be included in coming books, including: *Les Orients de Marguerite Duras* (Yann Mével dir.) Amsterdam: Rodopi, 2010 and Keiko Kawagushi, *Comparative Film History: Gendered Narratives of Nation and Diaspora*, Tokyo: Sairyu-sha, 2010. She is planning to organize the next Marguerite Duras conference at Western.

Source: CIA World Factbook
Christina Keppie joined the MCL team as an assistant professor in September 2008 and has been thoroughly enjoying her experience teaching French and Linguistics thus far. This year she finds herself busy with several international conferences on diversity and national identity and writing refereed articles on the difference in meaning in the terms Acadie and Acadien in New Brunswick Francophone discourse. Last fall, she successfully wrangled over 20 students into hosting Acadia Night for the WWU community and is still trying to catch up on lost sleep. Currently, she is in talks with Canadian-American Studies to implement month-long summer French immersion programs to Canada (Quebec, Acadia) where she will accompany students from WWU and UW for site-specific course instruction. Next year, Christina hopes to offer two new courses in the French program: a culture and conversation course on Belgium (mmm chocolate) and a third year course on Canadian French linguistics with a media lab component.

When not working on campus, most of her time is spent in a sweaty dojo where she trains on a muay thai fight team. Her Facebook page quotes one of her students, who last year informed someone that “my prof punches people, so I always come to class”.

A lot has happened in the German section since our last newsletter. Three members of the German section retired: Walter Suess in March 2007, Ingrid Kassler in June 2008, and Rudi Weiss in December 2008.

Walter Suess was instrumental in forging ties with the Goethe Institute in Seattle and, after its closure, with the Institute in San Francisco. He brought many exhibitions to Western’s campus, among them one on “The White Rose” (a resistance movement during National Socialism) and one on exiled writers. He was a teacher at heart and offered numerous workshops to teachers of all levels of instruction, not only in our state but nationwide. He was a valued member of the Teacher Trainer Network of the Northwest and was also very active in the AATG (American Association of Teachers of German) and WAFLT (Washington Association of Foreign Language Teachers). He received numerous prizes for his dedication to language instruction and his commitment to serving on the executive board of these organizations.
Ingrid Kassler was beloved by all the beginning and intermediate students who entered her classroom. She had a gift for inspiring young people to start and continue with German. Her enthusiasm was boundless, and her sense of drama translated into lively lessons. She would perform Goethe's famous ballad of the Elf King with her beginning German students or make them sing arias from Mozart’s Magic Flute. She frequently brought food into the classroom under the pretext of teaching the students German table manners. Her great sense of humor and compassion made her an outstanding colleague. She is sorely missed by all her students and surely by her colleagues.

Rudi Weiss attended WWU in the early 1960s on a music scholarship, graduating in 1963 with degrees in music education and German. He returned to his alma mater in 1970 and served as a member of Western’s faculty for 38+ years, over 30 of those in the rank of full professor. He received numerous teaching honors including the college’s outstanding teacher award in 1985. He served as the chair of the Modern Languages Department from 1984-1991. For 16 years, Prof. Weiss also served as the director of the Linguistics program, and as a result of his leadership and vision, it has turned into one of the most significant undergraduate programs in the country with over 100 majors. As a result of his scholarship and leadership in phonetics on an international level, he was named fellow of the International Society of Phonetic Sciences, which in 2001 bestowed upon him its highest honor, Laureate of the society, only the fifth so honored in its 70-year history.

Walter, Ingrid, and Rudi had an enormous impact on the university and our students. One thing they have in common is that they all generously opened their houses to students and their colleagues. Walter’s parties provided an opportunity for all of us to catch up on how we spent our last vacation, or to get to know our new colleagues; Ingrid’s Halloween parties were legendary; and for years, Rudi opened his private home to host the annual Christmas party. We miss seeing them in our halls and wish them all a happy and well-deserved retirement.

Sandra Alfers joined us in September 2008. Sandra came to us from Dickinson College where she had taught since 2004. Originally from Oldenburg in Northern Germany, Sandra graduated with her PhD from the University of Massachusetts in 2003. Her research focuses on Holocaust literature, in particular on German language poetry written in the camps. Her essay on Ruth Klüger's post-war poetry was published this past winter in *Monatshefte* and an article on the poetry from the Terezín transit camp is forthcoming in the Rocky Mountain Review. Last December, students in her drama class performed skits, songs, and cabaret pieces from Terezin in a well-attended performance here on campus. Afterwards, the “actors” and their family members gathered at Rudy's Pizzeria in town to celebrate the successful evening and the end of the quarter! In February 2010, Sandra was promoted to associate professor.

Sandra created the FACEBOOK site for the German section on Western’s network (German at Western) earlier this year. Feel free to “befriend” us in order to keep updated on all things German in Bellingham!
Since 2009 marked the 20th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall, the German section brought the exhibition “Icons of a Border Installation” to Wilson Library with the support of the Goethe Institute in San Francisco. Renowned historian David Clay Large gave the keynote address for the opening of our exhibition in April 2009. Other events to commemorate this historic year included a film screening at the local Pickford Theater of Martin Ritt’s classic Cold War spy thriller The Spy Who Came in From the Cold (1965), a conversation class that focused on Berlin, and a panel discussion. The four panelists were former East German citizen Uwe Goodall-Heising (Hanover High School, New Hampshire), Prof. Harry Ritter (History), Prof. Amir Abedi (Political Science), and Prof. Partsch, who each concentrated on a specific aspect of the Cold War. Over 40 high school students from Yakima who we invited to campus were spellbound by the stories of these experts since they are too young to have experienced the Cold War first hand.

Shannon Dubenion-Smith joined us from the University of Wisconsin at Madison where he received his PhD in Germanic Linguistics in 2008. His research areas include historical and dialect syntax, with a focus on the Central German dialect area. An article on verbal complex phenomena in West Central German dialects is forthcoming in the Journal of Germanic Linguistics. Currently, Shannon is working on verbal complex phenomena in East Central German and extraposition processes in Old Saxon with Katerina Somers Wicka at the University of Georgia. Besides teaching German language classes and phonetics, he also participates in the linguistics program. He is excited about teaching a 400-level course on Germanic linguistics in spring 2010.

Cornelius Partsch is on sabbatical leave this year. He is working on a research project about German spy novels published since the mid-1980s. He recently published an article on one of those novels, Hans Christoph Buch’s Der Burgwart der Wartburg (The Wartburg Warden, 1994), in the Rocky Mountain Review. Aside from teaching at the Sommerschule am Atlantik in Rhode Island and German 202 at WWU during the summer, he also delivered the keynote address at “The Fall of the Berlin Wall and Europe’s Evolution Since 1989,” a two-day workshop for Washington State educators. The event took place at the Center for West European Studies in the Jackson School of International Studies at the University of Washington. In May, he accompanied and praised Kalene Barry, MCL’s Outstanding Graduating Senior, at the awards ceremony during graduation weekend. Throughout the last year, he played on the “German” intramural soccer team headed by captain and German major Ryan Wolk.

Petra Fiero’s monograph Zwischen Enthüllen und Verstecken. Eine Analyse von Barbara Honigmanns Prosawerk was published by Max Niemeyer Verlag in the series Conditio Judaica in March 2008. She was elected president of the Washington chapter of AATG and has served in this capacity since 2008. In October, she went -- together with George Sanders (Chair of Accounting) and Doug Nord (Director of International Studies) -- on a weeklong business trip to Germany in order to establish partnerships with The Mercator School of Business in Duisburg-Essen, RWTH Aachen, and the Georg-Augusta University of Göttingen.

These are some cool cats!!
Our outstanding graduating senior in 2008 was Michelle Gilluly who double-majored in German and Spanish. She was not only chosen by both language sections for this honor, but also by the Dept. of Secondary Education. Michelle is currently teaching German and Spanish at Kamiak High School in Mukilteo, and we are very happy indeed that she is inspiring future generations of German students in the high schools to continue with German at the university level. In 2009, our outstanding graduating senior came once again from the German Section: Kalene Barry. We all enjoyed Kalene’s astute mind, her lively participation in our classes, and her astounding performance of a particularly moving piece by Ilse Weber, an inmate at Theresienstadt.

We’d love to hear from you! What’s new in your life? Please consider joining the German section on Facebook or dropping us a line, letting us know what you have been up to since graduation! We are always happy to hear from you!

Language Permutations

The following were among the winners in a New York Magazine contest in which contestants were to take a well-known expression in a foreign language, change a single letter, and provide a definition for the new expression.

- HARLEZ-VOUS FRANCAIS? Can you drive a French motorcycle?
- EX POST FUCTO Lost in the mail
- IDIOS AMIGOS We’re wild and crazy guys!
- VENI, VIP, VICI I came, I’m a very important person, I conquered.
- COGITO EGGO SUM I think; therefore I am a waffle.
- RIGOR MORRIS The cat is dead.
- RESPONDEZ S’IL VOUS PLAID Honk if you’re Scottish.
- LE ROI EST MORT. JIVE LE ROI The king is dead. No kidding.
- POSH MORTEM Death styles of the rich and famous
- PRO BOZO PUBLICO Support your local clown.
- MONAGE A TROIS I am three years old.
- MAZEL TON Tons of luck
- APRES MOE LE DELUGE Larry and Curly got wet.
- ICH LIEBE RICH I’m really crazy about having dough.
- FUJ GENERIS What’s mine is mine.
- CA VA SANS DIRT And that’s not gossip.

Japanese became a major in 2006, and the number of both Japanese majors and minors has been steadily increasing. The Japanese Program now has five faculty members to deliver the major: Michiko Yusa, Massimiliano Tomasi, Masanori Deguchi, Yong-Taek Kim, and Nancy Iwakawa. As part of the major, new courses are also now being offered, such as Japn350: Japanese Culture, History, and Society and Japn314: Japanese Phonetics.

This year, we welcomed Yong-Taek Kim to the Japanese Program. Prof. Kim completed his PhD in Linguistics at the University of Oregon in 2009. He is primarily interested in how language reflects the mind; for example, how language users view one and the same situation and represent it differently in different languages. He is very busy with teaching and with his 5-year-old son, but in his spare time, he enjoys bicycling and tennis. He hopes one day to bike around Hokkaido with his son.
Since March 2008, upon the request of the three editors of the *Sourcebook in Japanese Philosophy*, Prof. Yusa has been working on Japanese women philosophers, whose entries will be included in the Sourcebook (publication expected 2010, University of Hawaii Press). Through this project she was made to take a renewed look at Japanese philosophy and philosophical issues. This project led her to accept yet another contract to write on “Japanese Women in Buddhism from a Philosophical Perspective” for the *Dao: Companion to Japanese Buddhist Philosophy* (Springer Publisher). She “rocked the boat” when she gave her paper in Barcelona in June 2009 on Japanese women thinkers, and subsequently she took it as the title of her essay—“Women Rocking the Boat: A Philosophy of the Sexed Body and Self-Identity.” In the last 12 months, she has published two essays, one on a philosophy of language and the other on Japanese women philosophers, as well as three book reviews including a review of Barbara Ruch, ed., *Engendering Faith: Women and Buddhism in Premodern Japan* and Michael Goldberg’s DVD, *A Zen Life: D. T. Suzuki*, both of which appeared in H-Net just recently.

Prof. Tomasi was promoted to full professor in 2008. Ever since he joined MCL in 1997, Prof. Tomasi has been very active both in teaching and research. Prof. Tomasi is now on sabbatical leave to work on his book project *Metaphors of Christianity: The Dilemma of Faith in Modern Japanese Literature*. He will spend part of his research leave at the International Research Center for Japanese Studies in Kyoto. He is also very passionate about ramen. His search for the most delicious ramen in Kyoto continues.

This year’s keynote speaker for Japan Week 2009 was Prof. Mary Yoko Brannen, the former Spansion Chair of Multicultural Integration and Professor of International Business, College of Business, San Jose State University, and current professor at INSEAD in Fontainebleau, France. She gave two talks on April 8 and 9, speaking about the importance of “biculturalism” as a key factor for any aspiring student to become successful on the global stage. She met with advanced Japanese language students who were greatly inspired by her personal experiences and were encouraged to learn to be fluent in Japanese.
One of the changes in the Russian curriculum will be to start off each fall with a large GUR course, “Survey of Russian Civilization”. The course has been created and is on Prof. Vajda’s university webpage (http://pandora.cii.wwu.edu/vajda/) . This will be followed in winter and spring by the language sequence, which will be five credits each quarter. The first-year Russian course is currently only 4 credits per quarter over three quarters. By making the language sequence at the first year more intensive, and making it available in winter when no other first-quarter, first-year language courses are available, we hope to have less attrition going into the second year. Also, the large GUR course in the fall is designed to attract serious new student interest in Russian studies. 

The grant will allow a Mongolian language teacher to come to Western during 2010. Mongolian language courses are only taught at a few universities in the US, one being Indiana University, which has a long-standing program in Inner Asian studies. By giving us the Title VI Grant with a Mongolian language component, the US Department of Education seems to be looking at us to become the Pacific Coast center for Mongolian studies. The Mongolian language courses will complement existing courses in Mongolian and Inner Asian history.

The original song title: Please Don’t Make Me Too Happy

To French to English: Please Not Return To Me Too Happy
To German to English: Please To Me Do Not Go Back Too Lucky
To Italian To English: I Pray To Me Not To Go Behind Too Much Fortunate
To Portuguese to English: I Pray Me Not To Go Too Much Behind Fortunate
To Spanish To English: I Request To Me Not To Go Too Much Behind Lucky Person
Paqui Paredes is on sabbatical this academic year. She is working on a book project titled *Visual Discourses: Gender and Nation in Twentieth Century Spain*. She will be spending part of the winter quarter and her spring quarter in Spain, where she will continue writing and where she will conduct some final research at the National Library in Madrid.

Since suffering a bad fall in January, 2009 and taking medical leave for winter quarter 2009, Joan Hoffman has been back to work since spring quarter. She is currently serving as Coordinator for the Spanish Section while Prof. Paredes is on sabbatical. This involves advising and administrative duties. She is also a member of the Executive Board of WWU’s faculty union. Prof. Hoffman continues to teach upper-division courses this year and serve as study-abroad advisor for Spanish. She also continues her research, mainly in 19th Century peninsular literature and Spanish women writers.
Eine Frau sitzt aussichtslos
(Ger 450)

Eine Frau sitzt aussichtslos
Im Süden auf staubiger Erde
Sie weint; mit großen Tränen
Umhüllen sie Narben und Blut.

Sie denkt an ihren Sohn
Der an der Tür stand
Erschrocken und haltend ein Sturmgeschütz
In einem krieggebeutelten Land.

-Jennifer Patterson
(translation)
A Woman Sits Forlorn

A woman sits forlorn
In the south on dusty earth
She weeps; with large tears
Scars and blood envelop her.

She thinks about her son
Who stood at the door
Frightened, holding an assault rifle
In a war-torn country.

Les cheveux (Fr 203)

Quelquefois, quand les événements du jour ont été trop merveilleux ou trop terribles pour me permettre de cesser d’y réfléchir et je ne peux pas dormir, je reste éveillé et je regarde ma femme pendant qu’elle dort. Je m’appuie sur le coude et je la regarde de tous mes yeux. Elle devient gênée quand je la regarde trop intensément pendant la journée, mais quand vient la nuit son sommeil est aussi profond que la mer, donc elle ne sent pas mon regard et elle n’est pas dérangée.

D’habitude je commence par examiner son visage et ses détails individuels, mais toujours mes yeux finissent par être attirés à ses cheveux qui s’étendent l’oreiller en des ondulations et des boucles comme les branches d’un grand arbre superposées contre le ciel. Je sais bien que ces mèches précieuses sont blondes, mais ici dans l’obscurité elles pourraient être n’importe quelle couleur, soit le brun, le noir, ou le rouge. Pour un instant j’imagine qu’elles sont vertes, qu’elles ne sont pas du tout des cheveux mais les vrilles délicates d’une plante en fleurs, des vignes fertiles qui s’efforcent d’obtenir la lumière argentée qui coule à travers la fenêtre et qui forme une flaque sur les couvertures.

Time to let our brilliant students show off! Here we present the work of a few individuals courageous enough to submit their favorite writings of the past year.

First up, we have Jennifer Patterson who offers us a moving pastiche of Heinrich Heine’s Ein Fichtenbaum steht einsam.

Next, and with great flair, Kira Carmignani brings to life a women’s crowning glory - her hair. But BEWARE, not all is as it seems...
Tout à coup les cheveux s’animent. Au beau milieu d’un cauchemar, ma femme commence à se tordre comme si elle avait très mal. Elle s’enlève brusquement la tête d’une côte à l’autre avec violence et les cheveux m’attaquent d’une manière brutale, comme des centaines de toutes petites vipères qui veulent percer la chair de mon visage avec leurs crochets. Ah, ma déesse est devenue ma Méduse ! J’essaie de la faire réveiller mais le cauchemar est implacable ; je ne peux que prier que la lumière du matin vienne pour chasser les terreurs qu’emporte l’obscurité.

-Kira Carmignani

(Translation)

Her Hair

Sometimes, when the day’s events have been too wonderful or too terrible to allow me to stop thinking about them and I am unable to sleep, I remain awake and watch my wife while she sleeps. I prop myself up on my elbow and I watch her with my eyes wide open. She gets embarrassed if I look at her too intensely during the day, but when night falls her sleep is as deep as the ocean, so she does not feel my gaze and is not bothered by it.

I usually begin by examining her face and its individual details, but my eyes always end up being drawn to her hair, which spreads across the pillow in waves and curls like the branches of a great tree superimposed against the sky. I know very well that these precious locks are blond, but here in the darkness they could be any color, be it brown, black, or red. For a moment I imagine they are green, that they are not hair at all but the delicate tendrils of a flowering plant, fertile vines striving to reach the silver light of the moon which flows in through the window and pools on top of the blankets.

Suddenly the hair comes to life. In the throes of a nightmare, my wife begins to writhe as if she were in great pain. She whips her head back and forth violently and her hair attacks me savagely, like hundreds of tiny vipers that want to pierce my flesh with their fangs. Oh, my goddess has become my Medusa! I try to wake her but the nightmare is relentless; I can do nothing but pray for morning light to come and dispel the terrors darkness brings.

Wer ist Emil?

Students in Professor Alfers’ German 301 class (Grammar Review/Composition) read the classic German children’s book Emil und die Detektive published by Erich Kästner in 1929. It tells the story of a little boy, Emil, who travels by himself to visit his relatives in Berlin. Before leaving for the big city on the train, his mother gives him 140 Marks, and he is very careful not to lose the money. However, during the train ride, a suspiciously odd man steals it from him. Shortly before arriving in Berlin, Emil realizes that the money is gone and decides to follow the crook in the streets of Berlin. While on his pursuit, he makes many new friends and explores a bustling German city, and….gets his money back in the end!

The written assignment in conjunction with the novel entailed taking on the role of Emil and writing about his life prior to the Berlin departure. The following contribution was written by Aimee Williams.

Ich bin Emil! (Germ 301)


-Aimee Williams

(Translation)
I'm Emil!

My name is Emil Tischbein, and I come from Neustadt. Just like everyone, I have a mother whom I love. Once I had a father who was a plumber, but he died when I was five years old, and I'm afraid I can't remember him very well. So it's just me and my mother who's a hairdresser. We're not rich, but we're happy.

As I mentioned, I come from Neustadt, but soon I'm going to visit Berlin. I didn't want to at first, but my mother wanted me to visit my relatives, and now I'm going. Neustadt is a little town that just has a horse tram, and I'm really excited about seeing the foreign cars in Berlin.

Some people claim that I am a golden boy. Fine. I want to be a golden boy! Not for me, though, but for my mother. She's a wonderful mother who works long and hard for me, and I hope that I can make her happy with my good grades and hard work. Honestly, it's sometimes hard to be a golden boy. It is very difficult not to copy off Richard Naumann or skip school like the other students. And I often help my mother with her work, so I can't play very much with my friends. But if it makes my mother happy, then I'm happy.

The difference a little punctuation makes

Dear John:
I want a man who knows what love is. You are generous, kind, thoughtful. People who are not like you admit to being useless and inferior. You have ruined me for other men. I yearn for you. I have no feelings whatsoever when we're apart. I can be forever happy. Will you let me be yours?
Gloria

*****************************************************************

Dear John:
I want a man who knows what love is. You are generous, kind, thoughtful people, who are not like you. Admit to being useless and inferior. You have ruined me for other men. I yearn for you. I have no feelings whatsoever when we're apart. I can be forever happy. Will you let me be yours?

Yours, Gloria
Behind the scenes with computer guru Larry Palmer
-Christina Keppie

We know him as our ever-smiling, loveable, computer problem savior. He shows up to resolve our most simple technical difficulty, and we are a stronger department because of his expertise. Larry Palmer, who describes his job as “doing whatever somebody needs for their computer needs” has been doing just that since November 1998, and I, for one, could not imagine a more collegial individual. When I sat down with Larry to explain the purpose of our quick interview, that being that we wished to acknowledge those ‘behind the scenes’ individuals, Larry quickly pointed out that the positive feedback he receives from the MCL crew is one of the best parts of his job. Describing it as ‘almost obscene’, he says he loves and highly appreciates all the acts of kindness he receives – the cakes, cards, hugs, kisses, bottles of wine... (“Wait, maybe you shouldn’t print that”, he added). My thoughts on the matter? Larry, you do us such a huge service and are completely invaluable to us. Wouldn’t you all agree?

So what do we know about Larry? Here’s a quick rundown of some of the topics discussed during the interview.

1) He takes every phone call and email regarding computer problems very seriously. That is good.

2) He really hopes that each time he visits the abyss of our computer systems, he leaves it in better shape than ever.

3) He wore his best shirt and combed his hair for the interview.

4) He is currently finishing a 6-year, 1,200 square foot addition to his property.

5) He wishes it would snow so that he could make use of his season pass up at Stevens Pass.

6) He has quite the collection of relationship-related jokes, some of which are included in this issue.

7) While he does not consider himself quite old enough to relate to this bit of advice, he gives us a quote to live by: Everything I learn before 60 is bull***t (wisely stated by a 90-year old construction worker from Oregon). At 61 years young, Larry considers himself to have 1 year of wisdom to his name.

I think we are all extremely thankful to have Larry as part of our team!
Greetings fellow linguaphiles and welcome to Winter Quarter 2010! For those of you who don’t consider yourselves important enough to have seen last quarter’s events, let’s recap:

Prof. Kim helped us start the year off with a bang, with his explosive, break-neck paced, mind-blowingly awe-inspiring crash course in his native language: Korean. Prof. Kim did much more than just teach us. He burned a portal into each of our hearts that sucked our souls into a mighty vacuum like stray astronauts into a black hole, resurfacing after thousands of lifetimes in a parallel dimension filled with happiness and snacks, in which the only language spoken is Korean. He tore out the lazy, soggy, noodle-like sponges that used to occupy our cranial cavities and replaced them with a substance that mattered: brains. Those of us fortunate enough to have sat in on this presentation are still nurturing our wounded egos after coping with the harsh realization that we will never be as awesome as Prof. Yong-Taek Kim.

And if Prof. Kim’s presentation wasn’t enough to put you in a mental hospital after suffering informational overload, you may have hobbled your way into Haggard Hall 113 to witness Prof. Diane Johnson’s epic presentation on the language that balances the cosmos themselves: Sanskrit. I wasn’t aware that my eyes could melt out of my skull from being too well informed until I saw this presentation. Prof. Johnson truly rocked the room with this one. I wouldn’t be surprised if people on the third floor of Haggard Hall had called the fire department to report tremors...of knowledge. Luckily, Shiva the Destroyer was pleased with Prof. Johnson’s presentation and decided not to end all of humanity because her presentation was so amazing. Thanks, Prof. Johnson. Thanks, Shiva.

We’ve got some great events lined up already this quarter:

- A Crash Course in Thai with Prof. Judy Pine

- “Event Construal and Its Linguistic Encoding: Towards an extended Semantic Map Model” with Prof. Yong-Taek Kim (Feb 17th 16:00 in HH109)

- “Phonetic Reflexes of Orthographic Characteristics in Lexical Representation” with Prof. Jordan Brewer

- And More! No spoilers! Stay Tuned! Be sure to check your email for updates from the WWU Linguistics Club or visit the website at http://linguistics.wwu.edu/club/index.shtml
The Activities Committee in Modern and Classical Languages was created in 2004 in order to facilitate the organization of activities and events on campus that will enhance the cultural awareness of our students and also create opportunities for students, faculty, and the community at large to experience the cultures represented in the different languages we teach, from Spanish to Chinese. It was in this spirit that the Committee decided to bring the Compañía de Isabel López, a world-renowned group of flamenco musicians and dancers from Spain, to perform on campus during Fall Quarter 2009. The group was visiting the U.S. through the sponsorship of the Spanish Ministry of Culture, and they were in the Northwest under the special sponsorship of the Spanish consul in Seattle. The sponsorship of both the Ministry and the consul, together with the very generous help of several offices on campus and some businesses in the community, made it possible for them to give a performance on the Western campus.

We are happy to report that the event, called “Flamenco Desde Abajo”, or “Flamenco from the Ground Up”, was one of the most successful events the Activities Committee has sponsored so far. It was held at the Concert Hall in the Performing Arts Center on campus and the 640 seats were sold out the day before the event. It was a ninety minute show that featured Isabel Fernández López dancing in the company of Felipe Mato, with guitarists Morito and Jordi Albarrán, Diego Villegas on flute/harmonics, and singers El Trini and Sara Salado. The artists were a delight to work with and astonishing to watch on stage. The energy they channeled had us all sitting at the edge of our seats, and their performance was constantly interrupted by the applause of an audience that could feel the excitement, passion, and tension that are trademarks of any great flamenco performance. It was definitely a night to remember! After leaving Seattle, the artists went on to perform in Boston; Washington, D.C.; San Juan, Puerto Rico; and Panama.

With this great success, we are more excited than ever to keep working on bringing events to campus that enrich our students’ lives!
Acadia Night – Soirée acadienne

On December 3, 2009, several hundred students, faculty, friends, and family members streamed into the Viking Union’s Multi Purpose Room with little idea of what to expect. All they knew was that students and Culture class were going to put on a show commemorating Acadia and its people. What they got was a two-hour show of poetry, theater, and singing, hosted by Acadian characters – Acadieman and Acadiemère (for more information on these two colorful individuals, please consult http://acadieman.capacadie.com/). Students preparing for this event (generously sponsored by Canadian-American Studies and the Department of MCL) by selecting and learning poetry, writing skits illustrating important periods in Acadian history and identity, warming up their vocal chords to sing alongside self-interpreted Acadian music, scouring local second-hand stores for suspenders and 18th century military outfits, and creating props out of cardboard, branches, and leaves. At the end of the production, audience members were treated to a buffet of traditional Acadian food, all prepared by the students. Had you tasted the chicken fricot, you would never again eat the Campbell’s brand! The students obviously put an enormous amount of effort into this evening and should be commended. Anybody who is interested in seeing the DVD of the evening should contact Christina Keppie @ christina.keppie@wwu.edu

*The Hokey Pokey*
Shakespearean Style

O proud left foot, that ventures quick within
Then soon upon a backward journey lithe.

Anon, once more the gesture, then begin:
Command sinistral pedestal to writhe.
Commence thou then the fervid Hokey-Poke.
A mad gyration, hips in wanton swirl.
To spin! A wilde release from heaven’s yoke.
Blessed dervish! Surely canst go, girl.
The Hoke, the poke -- banish now thy doubt.
Verily, I say, ‘tis what it’s all about.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date and Time</th>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>February 7 (S) 1:30-5:00</td>
<td>Sehome High School</td>
<td>Chinese New Celebration with Northwest Chinese Cultural Association Entertainment; Buffet Dinner (Ticket Required)</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 12 (F) 7:00-9:00</td>
<td>Viking Union MPR</td>
<td>New Year Event: Activities and Refreshments</td>
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<td>Sponsored by Chinese Student Association of Ethnic Student Center</td>
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<td>February 14, Sunday</td>
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<td>Chinese New Year, Lunar New Year Begins</td>
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<td>February 16 (T) 12:00 noon</td>
<td>College Hall 131</td>
<td>Dr. Janet Xing: “The Chinese Language Since Chairman Mao”</td>
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<td>February 16 (T) 6:00-9:00</td>
<td>Humanities 109</td>
<td>“Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon” Chinese Film with English Subtitles</td>
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<td>February 17 (W) 4:00-6:00</td>
<td>Canada House</td>
<td>Global Gatherings Dumpling Party for Chinese New Year</td>
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<td>February 18 (R) 10:00-4:00</td>
<td>Humanities 109</td>
<td>Celebration for Chinese Language Students and Guests</td>
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<td>New Year Class Sessions 10; 11 and 1; Noon Refreshments</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 19 (F) 12:00-1:00</td>
<td>Humanities 109</td>
<td>“Study in China” by Language Program Students Chinese Program &amp; International Programs and Exchanges</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 27 (S) 7:00</td>
<td>Mt. Baker Theater</td>
<td>Chinese Culture Festival Concert Tickets required from Mt. Baker Theater</td>
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Sandra Alfers, German – November 17, 2009 – “Between Memory and Oblivion: German Language Poetry from the Camps”

Christina Keppie, French – February 9, 2010 – “Tracing the Acadian Borders”


THE WORLD’S CLASSICS
A LECTURE SERIES

3:00 January 20, Science Lecture Hall 120
Steven Garfinkle (History)
Eternal Gilgamesh: The Ancient Epic of Mesopotamian Mythology

3:00 February 2, Science Lecture Hall 130
Diane Johnson (Modern & Classical Languages)
The Dramatic Lyricism of Kalidasa and the Classical Sanskrit Drama

3:00 February 17, Science Lecture Hall 120
David Curley (Liberal Studies)
The Mahabharata: India’s Epic on Right Conduct in War

4:00 March 3, Science Lecture Hall 120
Michiko Yusa (Modern and Classical Languages)
Lady Murasaka’s The Tale of the Shining Prince (ca 1008) & the Secret Weapon of Women Authors

3:00 April 13, Science Lecture Hall 120
Kathleen Tomlonovic (Modern and Classical Languages)
China’s Historical Heroes and Villains Regain the Stage
Every Wednesday evening at 7 p.m., Wood’s Coffee downtown on Railroad Street is invaded by French students, all eager to share their stories and fun times over a cup of steaming tea or hot coffee. La Table Française has gotten so popular that organizers Zoe Mote, Emily Bond, and Alexandre Girard are forced to arrive an hour early just to reserve enough tables and chairs for everyone! They sure are a lively bunch, but dedicated to learning the language as well, for a fat dictionary has often been spotted lingering on the tables. A movie night is planned for February 20th.

If you are interested in attending these weekly gatherings, feel free to contact the organizers at wuulatablefrancaise@gmail.com or become a Facebook friend! Just look up la Table Française and look for the picture of the delicious baguette!

The German Stammtisch meets at Rudy’s Pizzeria on State Street every Thursday evening at 7 p.m. Students come to chat and partake in the occasional game of speed scrabble – auf Deutsch, natürlich! For further information, contact Elise Keim at germanclubwwu@gmail.com.

The Arabic Language Club is a bustle of lively activity! On Wednesdays from 5:30-8:30pm, in AW 412, you can find students listening to funky Arabic music, playing games, watching movies, or partaking in cultural presentations. These students are so enthusiastic that they even get together on weekends to play Arabic Scrabble…as if Scrabble in English isn’t hard enough! The club is hoping to host an End of Quarter picnic, so keep your ears tuned for details.
Linda Istanbulli has recommended the following *websites* for anybody interested in brushing up on their *Arabic language, culture, and news*:

**ALJAZEERA NEWS** (Arabic or English) - http://www.aljazeera.net/portal

**ALARABIYA NEWS** (Arabic or English) - http://www.alarabiya.net/default.html

And in *novels*...

**Naguib Mahfouz, 2001.** *The Cairo Trilogy*: *Palace Walk, Palace of Desire, Sugar Street.*

—“Luminous...All the magic, mystery and suffering of Egypt in the 1920s are conveyed on a human scale.”

—New York Times Book Review

**Tayeb Salih, 1970.** Season of Migration to The North.

—“An Arabian Nights in reverse, enclosing a pithy moral about international misconceptions and delusions.”

—The Observer
Shaw Gynan raves about the following read by a 1982 Nobel winner:

Gabriel García Márquez, 2002. Vivir Para Contarla

"Un libro espléndido, unas memorias ... que nos franquean el acceso a un mundo privado".

–Joaquín Marco, El Mundo

FRANCAIS

For those with a warped side, Christina Keppie recommends this classic dark comedic film:

Delicatessen (directed by Marc Caro and Jean-Pierre Jeunet 1991)

A post-apocalyptic surreal-ist black comedy about the landlord of an apartment building who creates cannibalistic meals for his odd tenants.

See the Trailer @ http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iYo_SkERMNI&feature=related

Or how about this movie instead?

Congorama (directed by Philippe Falardeau 2006) has it all: comedy, international culture shock, diamonds, and an emu!

How can we summarize this film? An eccentric Belgian inventor travels to Québec to search for his family, which uncovers a secret history between two seemingly unrelated people.

See the trailer @ http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mILxeWDtrwE
2009-2010 Faculty and Staff Roster

Tenured and Tenure-track Faculty
Sandra Alfers – Assistant Prof. of German
Brent Carbajal – Professor of Spanish, Dean for CHSS
Masanori Deguchi – Assistant Prof. of Japanese/Ling.
Kendra Douglas – Assistant Prof. of Spanish/Ling.
Shannon Dubenion-Smith – Assistant Prof. of German/Ling.
Petra Fiero – Professor of German
Hugo García – Assistant Prof. of Spanish
Shaw Gynan – Professor of Spanish/Ling., Director of Linguistics
Vicki Hamblin – Professor of French, Department Chair
Cécile Hanania – Associate Prof. of French
Joan Hoffman – Professor of Spanish
Diane Johnson – Associate Prof. of Classics
Christina Keppie – Assistant Prof. of French/Ling.
Edouard Ousselin – Associate Prof. of French
Paqui Paredes – Associate Prof. of Spanish
Cornelius Partsch – Associate Prof. of German
Daniel Rangel-Guerrero – Associate Prof. of Spanish
Massimiliano Tomasi – Professor of Japanese
Kathleen Tomlonovic – Professor of Chinese, East Asian Studies
John Underwood – Professor of Spanish, LMC Director
Edward Vajda – Professor of Russian/Ling.
Janet Xing – Professor of Chinese/Ling.
Michiko Yusa – Professor of Japanese, East Asian Studies

Limited-term Faculty
Jordan Brewer – Visiting Assistant Prof. of Linguistics
Amy Carbajal – Senior Instructor of Spanish
Kirsten Drickey – Visiting Assistant Prof. of Spanish
Eduardo Engelsing – Instructor of Classics
David Fiero – Visiting Assistant Prof. of Spanish
Linda Istanbulli – Instructor of Arabic
Nancy Iwakawa – Instructor of Japanese
Yong-Taek Kim – Visiting Assistant Prof. of Japanese
Karen López Alonzo – Instructor of Spanish
Mary Ann Rangel – Senior Instructor of Spanish
Dwan Shipley – Senior Instructor of Linguistics
Byron Stayskal – Visiting Assistant Prof. of Classics
Scott Taylor – Visiting Assistant Prof. of French
Judith White – Instructor of Spanish
Ho-chin Yang – Visiting Assistant Prof. of Chinese
Lily Yang – Instructor of Chinese

Staff
Lisa Weed – Administrative Staff
Robert Backstrom – Academic Support Staff