

# INTERLINGUA

## DEPARTMENT OF MODERN AND CLASSICAL LANGUAGES

From the Chair's Chair,

Many changes have taken place in MCL since the last time this bulletin was published, which was in February of 2011, and, luckily, most of them have been very positive. From our move to Miller Hall in the fall of 2011 to the hiring of three brand-new tenure-track faculty members in Spanish and Chinese, the last two years have brought renewed energy to the halls of Modern and Classical Languages.

Moving to Miller Hall has been both exciting and life-changing. From the narrow, somewhat dark and cozy halls of the Humanities building we now inhabit the wide, spacious, and light-filled hallways of the newly renovated Miller Hall. It is a beautiful building that is certified Silver for its green features, something that goes along nicely with our own efforts to make MCL an environmentally conscious workspace.

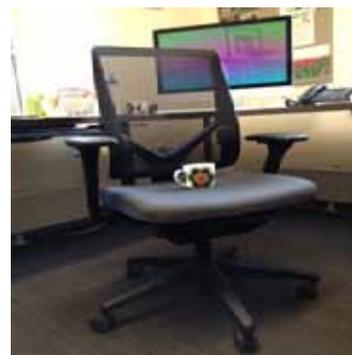
Even more exciting than our new building was last year's searches for three new tenure-track faculty members, two in Spanish and one in Chinese. In spite of a still difficult budget crisis, the great need of the Department was answered with permission to do three searches that finished very successfully. We are all thrilled to have Professors Blanca Aranda, Janice Kam, and Charles Patterson as our colleagues. They have brought new teaching and research interests to our students, and they are adjusting beautifully to life in the Northwest and at Western. You will find complete profiles of our new colleagues in the pages of this bulletin.

Our long-time faculty members have also kept themselves busy. Professors Diane Johnson, Massimiliano Tomasi, and Janet Xing took students to Greece, Italy, and China, respectively, with faculty-led study abroad programs in which Western students can be enrolled in Western courses abroad, directly experiencing the life and culture of the countries they are visiting. Professor Shaw Gynan plans to take students to Paraguay next summer in a brand-new study abroad program of his design. Many of our students are taking full advantage of these study abroad opportunities. We do wish we could provide more scholarships to all those students who are fully aware of the benefits that going abroad brings to their education, but this is not possible due to financial constraints.

As usual, we have all kept busy with our research activities. In this past year, MCL faculty published 4 books, 19 refereed journal articles and book chapters, and presented 24 conference papers. A number of faculty have also delved into the production of online and electronic materials for language learners.

All in all, it has been an action-packed couple of years. We are excited about the future, and we invite you all to stop by our new home to say 'hello'.

**-Paqui Paredes**, Chair, Associate Professor of Spanish



## Table of Contents:

From the Chair's Chair	1
New Faculty and Staff	2-5
Section News	
Chinese	6-7
Classics	7
French	8-9
German	10-12
Japanese	12
Russian	13
Spanish	14-15
Faculty Publications	15-17
Student Work	18-21
MCL Recommends	22-26
Gut Busters	27
Departmental Roster	28



## BLANCA ARANDA

I received my Ph.D. in Romance Languages in 2012 from the University of Oregon where I specialized in twentieth-century Latin American Literature. I completed my undergraduate studies at the Universidad Mayor de Andrés and received my Licenciatura from the Department of Literature in 2002. I spent 2002-2004 in La Paz as chair of the Literature Area at the Instituto Normal, the Universidad Católica Boliviana, and the Department of Literature at the Universidad Mayor de San Andrés before moving to the United States to continue my graduate studies.



My research and teaching interests are guided by my will to strengthen the connections between the written word and oral traditions linked to different textual practices, among which we can find the art of weaving textiles. Since my scholarship aims to reframe the concept of intertextuality within a Latin American context, I incorporate film, music, and visual art into my teaching and encourage students to understand these textualities as elements of a complex matrix of historical, social, and economic relations in which they themselves are immersed. My current book project, *An Intertextual Web of Knowledge: Text and Textile in the Andes*, focuses on an intertextual web unique to Andean culture that goes beyond references to literary texts. In addition to my primary research fields, I am interested in Latin American Studies, Andean, Mesoamerican, and Caribbean Literature and Culture, and Theories of Orality, Textuality, and Identity. Since joining the Department of Modern and Classical Languages at Western, I have had the opportunity to prepare a new curriculum in Latin American Literature. I am very excited to be able to offer a new class this winter quarter, “Oralidad y Textualidad en los Andes y Mesoamerica”, and, in the near future, plan to offer classes on orality in Caribbean woman writers, the influence of Aztec poetry on contemporary Mesoamerican writers, and metaphors in music and textiles from the Meridional Andes.

### Co-Editors

**Shannon Dubenion-Smith**  
**Christina Keppie**

### Questions, concerns, comments?

**shannon.dubenion-smith@wwu.edu**  
**christina.keppie@wwu.edu**

# HOLLY CHILDS

My name is Holly Childs, and I am the program coordinator for the linguistics program as well as support for MCL. I came here from the Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages program where I was the coordinator for 10 years. Due to budget cuts, my position was eliminated, and I was 'bumped' into Robert Backstrom's vacated position in Modern and Classical Languages. I was sad to leave TESOL but have come to love this department and all its represented cultures and eclectic professors.

I have lived in Bellingham for 23 years and graduated from WWU in 1993. My husband, two girls, and I love to camp and usually take an extended trip every summer to one of the National Parks. Our very favorite so far has been Banff up in Canada. If we're not camping in the summer, then you can usually find us in our boat out in the San Juans camping on the islands or fishing. Actually, it's my husband who fishes, crabs, and shrimps while I read a book and cheer him on. I do enjoy the spoils, though. The rest of my time is happily spent helping my girls with their homework and various endeavors, reading, watching lots of movies, and running in the mornings.



*Thank you, Holly,  
for all you do for us!*

# SHARON CHANG



Hello! I am Sharon Chang from the Chinese Section. I did my graduate work at the University of Washington-Seattle. I am a native of Taipei, Taiwan and am still very new to B'ham. Thanks to Prof. Kam, I am discovering something amazing every weekend. I thought to myself that after checking off Boundary Bay, Stone Pot Korean Restaurant, and Pepper Sisters, we would run out of options in Downtown B'ham. However, that's not the case. In fact, Prof. Kam even found me a decent Chinese restaurant called Best Chopsticks. If I knew how to drive, I would like to take a day trip around the bend to beautiful Chuckanut Drive, but that might just be wishful thinking.

## Faculty Tidbit Trivia

Which MCL faculty member reads *Lord of the Rings* once every five years?

- a. Paqui Paredes
- b. Sean Dwyer
- c. Massi Tomasi
- d. Charles Patterson



# KARINA POLPOIAKOVA

My name is Karina Pokoiakova. I am a Fulbright scholar from the Republic of Khakassia in the Russian Federation. The Republic of Khakassia with its capital Abakan is located in the southern part of Eastern Siberia on the Abakan and Yenisei rivers.



I received a grant in 2012 to conduct research for my thesis, and the Fulbright Office chose Western Washington University as the best place to do this. My research advisor is Professor Edward Vajda. I arrived here in fall and will stay at WWU until the end of June 2013.

My research work is in Psycholinguistics. It is connected to both gender studies and cross-cultural communication. I am trying to find out about existing ethno-cultural peculiarities of gender stereotypes and social roles in the Russian, American English, and Khakass languages that may lead to failures in cross-cultural communication. The problem of man-woman relations and their images in the field of social science is very urgent, and it is quite interesting to examine the given question from the point of view of linguistics and see what language groups find their reflection in the linguistic consciousness of this or that ethnicity.

I am fond of teaching, which I intend to continue doing. I think that my participation in the Fulbright Program will contribute to my career as an English teacher. It goes without saying that every foreign language teacher should have the chance to visit the country of the language he or she studies and teaches. It increases the motivation for both the teacher's work and students' study.

I am greatly interested in learning and mastering foreign languages. Since I had to study Spanish as hard as English, I began attending the Club of Spanish Language and Culture at the university in my hometown, Abakan. And I am still an active participant in its events. I started learning Turkish last year. This language has much in common with my native one – the Khakass language, as they are both Turkic languages. I am always surprised to discover new similarities in the structures of the languages. Besides this, I am keen on dancing, and I am a member of the Arabic Dance School in Abakan. Dancing teaches a person to feel the beauty of the world, making a person strong and harmonious. I also like reading short stories, detective stories, tales of mystery and the supernatural, and classic literature, and I like listening to pop music and ethno-rock.

I have managed to visit Miami, Florida, and San Francisco, California, while staying in the U.S. I would like to recommend visiting Art Basel, the most prestigious art show in America. It was held for the 12th time in Miami this year. More than 260 leading galleries from North America, Europe, Latin America, Asia, and Africa took part, showcasing works by more than 2,000 artists of the 20th and 21st centuries. Speaking of San Francisco, museums there worth visiting are: The California Academy of Sciences, de Young Museum, Asian Art Museum, and the San Francisco Museum of Art.

## CHARLES PATTERSON



Coming to Western completes almost a full circle of the American West for me. I was born in Arizona, spent my childhood in Texas and my teen and college years in Utah. I graduated from Utah State University—although not without first living a few years in Argentina and traveling around Central America. I caught the teaching bug working as a medical Spanish instructor at hospitals and clinics, so I went off to graduate school at the University of New Mexico and the University of Texas at Austin. For the past three years I was on the faculty at Stephen F. Austin State University in Nacogdoches, Texas.

My research focuses on medieval and early modern Spanish literature, particularly theater. I explore issues of religion and identity in that multicultural context.

I enjoy outdoor activities such as fishing and hiking, but nowadays I dedicate most of my free time to my family. My wife, Dayna, is an accomplished poet and teacher. We are raising two very energetic daughters, ages three and five.

## JANICE KAM

My research interests lie in the early historiographical and intellectual traditions of China, and my dissertation studied the *Zuo Commentary*, a historical text that provides an account of the colorful and tumultuous three centuries of political unrest preceding the birth of Confucius and continuing into his lifetime. At Western, I teach language courses, a course introducing East Asian civilization, and a series of courses on the culture and literature of China. For me, China's long and varied history provides an unending and fascinating assembly of stories to delight, to entertain, and to enlighten.

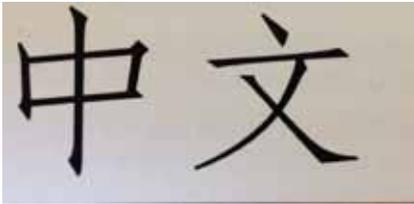
## XIUCAI ZHENG



I love what I do: Read Chinese history and literature and write on them. Teaching Chinese is enjoyable, and students are fun. Learning to teach new courses is also an exciting process, but sometimes it is overwhelming. I love my daughter and my husband. Taking care of a 3-year-old kid and commuting between home and school take a lot of time. But I like to stay close to my family. I miss the time when I was still a student and had more free time. I remember that we visited more than ten national parks when my daughter was less than one year old. But now I just don't have time for a long-distance trip. :(

# SECTION NEWS

Brought to you from the MCL News Desk, located in Miller Hall 223 - "Trusted news, from a trusted source."



## Chinese

The Chinese Language Program has some very exciting news to report. First, three new faculty members have joined the Program since Fall 2011: Prof. **Sharon Chang** (Visiting Assistant Professor, 2011), Prof. **Xiukai Zheng** (Diversity Fellow, 2011), and Prof. **Janice Foong Kam** (Assistant Professor, 2012). Secondly, the Program offered a faculty-led study abroad program in China during the summers of 2011 and 2012. We will continue to offer this program in the summer of 2013 and into the future. Thirdly, there has been a dramatic increase in the number of minors and student-faculty designed majors this past year. The goal of the Chinese Program for the next two years is to develop a new major entitled "Chinese Language and Culture". This proposal has already been circulated in the Department and the Center for East Asian Studies and has generated strong support from those affected and from closely related academic units. We are confident that the proposed major, if approved, will better serve the needs of Western students and meet the increasing demand for graduates who possess knowledge and skills in Chinese language and culture in the State of Washington and the Pacific Rim. Last but not least, the section recently launched a new Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/WWUChineseProgram](http://www.facebook.com/WWUChineseProgram). Check it out!



All sorts of fun happening during the faculty-led Study Abroad Program to Beijing

The fantastic **Janet Xing** receiving the Peking University Press Publication Award (2012) for her article "Pedagogy and Acquisition of Chinese Words" published in the *Journal of Chinese Language Teachers Association*.



We find Prof. Xing to be pretty fab indeed. In 2011 and 2012, she offered a new course that will permanently become Lang 430: Asian Language Pedagogy and Practice. She has an excellent service record as well, holding down the fort of the Chinese Language Teachers Association, USA at almost every level (currently on the Board of Directors). Furthermore, Prof. Xing organized a variety of activities for the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Association at the Annual Meeting of ACTFL/CLTA held November 14-18 in Philadelphia and presented at four different conferences, most recently the 2013 Symposium on Grammatical Instruction in Culturally Appropriate CFL Teaching.

C  
L  
A  
S  
S  
I  
C  
S

**Eduardo Engelsing** had a busy summer of 2012, researching and teaching in France, Italy, and Brazil. In Paris, during the months of June and August, he worked with an international team on his Latin textbook, soon to be published. In Rome, in July, he taught a three-week intensive Latin course at the Pontificia Università della Santa Croce (Pontifical University of the Holy Cross). Using part of his book and his experience in teaching Latin with an active methodology at Western, Prof. Engelsing taught a group of high school instructors and college professors from all around the globe, an experience he will be repeating this coming summer: <http://en.pusc.it/centri/dipartimento-di-lingue/corsi-latino>. At the beginning of September, Prof. Engelsing was invited by the Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul (Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul), in Porto Alegre, Brazil, to give a demonstration of his method and then join a panel on language pedagogy in Classics, with the participation of faculty members and students.



At the beginning of January 2013, **Byron Stayskal** participated in a panel on Greek Pedagogy at the annual meeting of the American Philological Association. For this panel, Prof. Stayskal read a paper on the order of topics presented in elementary Greek and the impact that this order has on the students' learning experience. This is the fifth paper on Greek pedagogy that he has presented at either the APA or the Classical Association of the Midwest and South, and each of these five papers has addressed some innovation that he has put into practice in the Greek courses he teaches here at Western.



Prof. Engelsing with high school teachers, college professors, and students from the United States, Italy, Spain, Kenya, France, and Brazil

**Vicki Hamblin** was appointed Executive Director of International Studies in January 2012. She is coordinating a number of initiatives that aim to increase the international student population at Western, to internationalize Western’s curriculum, and to support partnerships with international institutions.

In November 2012, the Center for International Studies participated for the first time in International Education week, which is organized by the U.S. Departments of State and Education. Events included: Speakers from the U.S. Consulate in Vancouver, B.C. and the Canadian Consulate in Seattle, presentations by Western faculty, an International Student Welcome fair, an interactive map activity in the Collaborative space in Miller Hall, and a taco truck on Red Square!



**Cécile Hanania** is always on the go. Summer 2012 found her zooming around the world, participating in conferences such as an international colloquium on the writer Marguerite Duras in Montréal (“De l’écran à l’écrit : portraits d’actrices chez Marguerite Duras”), and the World Congress of the International Council for Francophone Studies, held in Greece (“Serge Doubrovsky, le passeur des deux rives”).



Become a **French at Western** Facebook friend!



View of Thessaloniki’s landmark, the White Tower (Greece). Not a bad place for a conference, don’t you think?



**Christina Keppie** was also busy on the conference circuit last summer. Continuing her research on Acadia, she presented at the Association of French Language Studies Conference in Newcastle, UK (“The Role of Language in Acadianité”). It just so happened that she presented precisely when Queen Elizabeth II was waving to the crowds along the Thames for her Golden Jubilee. It was also one of the first academic trips where she didn’t lose her luggage. Closer to home, Prof. Keppie presented at the annual conference on Diversity in Organizations, Communities, and Nations where she proposed the term ‘acadiotrope’ to designate all individuals who consider themselves part of Acadia or part of the Acadian social equality cause.

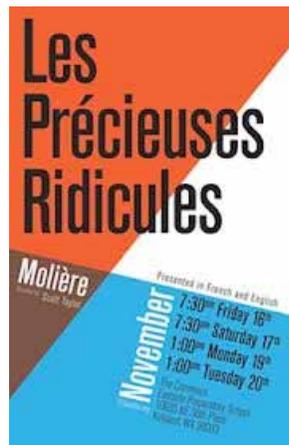
This summer, this acadiotrope will be working on a project called ‘Arcadit: Living Testimonies of Acadian Men and Women’. This WWU Summer Research Grant will allow her to work on new data gifted to her by the Acadian Museum of Quebec. Initially, this will involve primarily transcription work, but fun analyses on ideological discourses will surely follow!

The new book review editor for the *American Review of Canadian Studies*.



Visiting Assistant Professor **Scott Taylor** has really hit it out the ballpark this past year. Not only has he had several publications in a variety of journals, he was also awarded a WWU mini-grant from the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs for a bilingual theatre production. Here's what Prof. Taylor had to say on the matter:

"I founded a non-profit theatre company called 'Le Théâtre Français de Seattle' in 2012. Website: (TFSeattle.org). Our first production took place in November 2012, and it was a bilingual production (in French and English) of Molière's *Les Précieuses ridicules* and featured native, near-native, and intermediate level speakers of French from the Seattle area including actors from Lille, Brussels, and Toulouse. The English version was my own translation, which I titled *Princess Butterflies* and was set in modern-day Hollywood. The French version was a bouffonesque/circus-style production of the play. The show took place at The Commons Theatre of Eastside Preparatory School in Kirkland and was attended by over 600 people. I was the director of the show and am the Artistic Director for the company. I also continue to write reviews of theatre performances in Seattle for a site called 'Drama in the Hood'. We are a team of four who review practically every show that opens in Seattle (Website: DramaInTheHood.net)."



And that's not all! In April of 2013, "Le Théâtre Français de Seattle" is scheduled to have their second production, which will be a night of Absurdist one-acts performed only in French. The show will take place in Theatre4 at the Seattle Center, and the plays are: *Adam, Eve, et le 3e sexe* by Boris Vian and *Pique-nique en campagne* by Fernando Arrabal.

## Faculty Tidbit Trivia

Which MCL faculty member is such a fan of the TV sitcom *Seinfeld* that they practically have every episode committed to memory?

- Vicki Hamblin
- Janice Foong Kam
- Masa Deguchi
- Hugo Garcia



"It's a show about nothing!"

# DEUTSCH

The last two years have been very exciting for the German section. In January 2013, our program was one of only two nationwide to be recognized this year as a “National Center of Excellence” by the American Association of Teachers of German (<http://www.aatg.org/content/college-university-centers-excellence>). The application for this award required the demonstration of excellence in the areas of overall program, faculty, and curriculum, and included letters of support from administrators, professional colleagues, students, alumni, and parents. We are proud to be the only undergraduate program at a public university in the United States with this designation (other recipients include programs at Emory, Michigan State University, and Valparaiso).

Since 2011, our German students have also had continued success in winning nationally and internationally competitive scholarships. Please see [http://www.wvu.edu/vpue/Praxis/Praxis\\_spring2012.pdf](http://www.wvu.edu/vpue/Praxis/Praxis_spring2012.pdf) and <http://www.wvu.edu/mcl/german/alumni.shtml> for details on these awards.

To keep abreast of news from the German section, please visit us on our Facebook page: **German at Western**. We look forward to meeting you there!

**Sandra Alfers** has been active at regional, national, and international conferences. In October 2011, she gave a talk entitled “Wo-von sollen wir träumen? Neue deutsche Popmusik im DaF-Unterricht” at the Washington Association of Foreign Language Teachers (WAFLT) conference in Pasco, WA. A conference sponsored by the *International Journal of Arts and Sciences* (IJAS) brought her in June 2012 to the Anglo-American University in Prague, Czech Republic, where she presented the paper “Writing from Within: Else Dormitzer in Terezín, 1943-1945”. Then in October 2012, Prof. Alfers returned to the WAFLT conference, held in conjunction with the Conferation in Oregon for Language Teaching (COFLT), with Prof. Paqui Parades from the Spanish section. There they enlight-teachers from the region with their talk “Using Apps and Online Books in the L2 Classroom”. Prof. Alfers is currently organizing a panel, “Das Fliegende Klassenzimmer: Online books and mobile applications in the L2 classroom”, for the November 2013 meeting of the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) in Orlando, Florida.



Not only has Prof. Alfers actively presented on the use of technology in the classroom, but she has created her own online learning materials as well. In September 2011, her mobile application “German Review: For Beginners”, which consists of lectures, flash cards, and tests, appeared. It is available at iTunes for iPhone, iPad, and iPod. Her online textbook *Auf Spurensuche: Ein Lesebuch* was published in January 2013 at [ismor-ethanatextbook.com](http://ismor-ethanatextbook.com).

Prof. Alfers has also published two further works, an article in the *Journal of Teaching and Education*, “Writing from Within: Else Dormitzer in Theresienstadt (1943-1945)”, and a review of the volume *German and European Poetics after the Holocaust. Crisis and Creativity* edited by Hofmann et al.

Besides teaching, presenting, and publishing, Prof. Alfers was a member of the 2011 Bargaining Team for the United Faculty of Western Washington, which successfully negotiated with the administration a new faculty contract that went into effect in September 2012 and was highlighted in the January 2013 issue of the NEA Higher Education Advocate (see <http://www.ufww.org/aaaaufww/wp-content/uploads/2013/01/ArticleNEA.pdf> for more details). She is currently the UFWW Director of Communications.

It is hard to believe that **Shannon Dubenion-Smith**'s fifth year at Western is coming to a close! One of the highlights of the past two years for Prof. Dubenion-Smith was teaching a new fourth-year level linguistics course that he developed for the German curriculum, *The German Language: Past and Present*. He was thrilled to read Old, Middle, and Early New High German texts with his students in the original, discuss the changes that have occurred in the history of German, and explore modern German dialects and Sprachinseln (linguistic enclaves) around the world – including the United States.



Prof. Dubenion-Smith's continued research on German dialect syntax has taken him to conferences in London, Ontario (Methods in Dialectology XIV) and Kiel, Germany (4th Convention of the International Society for German Dialectology). His colleague Katerina Somers (Queen Mary – University of London) also presented on their joint research on Old Saxon meter and syntax at the biannual meeting of the Forum for Germanic Language Studies (Sheffield, England). The results of these research projects have led to three publications in *Folia Linguistica*, *Zeitschrift für Dialektologie und Linguistik*, and *Amsterdamer Beiträge zur älteren Germanistik*. In Fall 2012, Prof. Dubenion-Smith was invited to join the advisory board for the Pennsylvania Dutch Documentation Project with colleagues at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, Marquette University, and The Pennsylvania State University. The goal of this project is to document and transcribe both audio and textual archival sources in Pennsylvania Dutch for researchers and the general public.

Much of Prof. Dubenion-Smith's time not spent teaching or researching is devoted to work as co-chair of Western's One World Initiative strategic team, advised by Prof. Vicki Hamblin, Director of the Center for International Studies. The goal of this initiative is to plan, design, and implement an internationally-focused curriculum at Western over the next three years.

**Petra Fiero** participated in a two-week long seminar called "Salzburg Intensiv" in July 2012. German teachers from eleven different countries participated in getting to know the Mozartstadt inside out. They produced radio features and a film on various aspects of the city. Prof. Fiero's group worked on the Austrian author Stefan Zweig who had lived in Salzburg for many years before the Nazis forced him out of Austria. You can see and hear their contributions here:

<http://www.kulturundsprache.at/site/kulturundsprache/projekte/radioprojekte>.



Mozartbecher at Café Tomaselli



Stefan-Zweig-Center  
His novella *Schachnovelle*

Highlights of Prof. Fiero's stay included a visit to the Festspiele where she heard the Israel Symphony Orchestra under Zubin Mehta, a visit and guided tour of Austrian author Thomas Bernhard's farm in Ohlsdorf, and, of course, a picture-taking session at the exhibition: "The Trapp Family – Myth and Reality".



"The Hills are Alive..."

Prof. Fiero also scheduled an interview with Austrian author Vladimir Vertlib on whose work she is writing a book, and meeting him face to face at the famous Café Bazar was for her THE event of the year. Back at home, she has been busy presenting and publishing on Vertlib. She gave two talks at the Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association (PAMLA) in October 2011 and 2012 titled "Ironien der Geschichte in Vladimir Vertlibs *Das besondere Gedächtnis der Rosa Masur*" and "Das Leben im Zwischenraum: Vladimir Vertlibs Roman *Zwischenstationen* (1999)". An article, "Vladimir Vertlibs Selbstverständnis als österreichischer Schriftsteller russisch-jüdischer Herkunft", will appear in *Deutsch-jüdische Identität. Mythos und Wirklichkeit. Ein neuer Diskurs?*, edited by Norbert Honza and Przemysław Sznurkowski.



The last couple of years have been quite eventful for **Cornelius Partsch**. In February 2012, Prof. Partsch was promoted to full professor. Congratulations, Cornelius! He has also published two textbooks - *Treffpunkt Deutsch* (6th ed.) with Margaret T. Gonglewski & Beverly T. Moser and *In 1920s Berlin with Emil*, an online textbook ([www.itsmorethanatextbook.com](http://www.itsmorethanatextbook.com)). Finally, Prof. Partsch participated in a conference on Weimar Colonialism in Maynooth, Ireland in April 2012.

# JAPANESE

Since April 2012, **Michiko Yusa** has authored nine new publications (see p. 17 below) and presented at eight national and international conferences, taking her across the United States and to Germany, Hong Kong, Italy, and Japan:

- Annual Meeting, American Academy of Religion, Chicago, November 18-21, 2012.
- La Filosofia interculturale: Problemi e Prospettive, held at University of Siena, October 23, 2012.
- 3.11 Great Earthquake and the Creation of New Values, University of Tohoku, Sendai, March 9-10, 2012.
- International Conference hosted by the Department of Philosophy, Chinese University of Hong Kong, 9-10 December 2011.
- Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, San Francisco, 20-23 November, 2011.
- “Nishida Kitarō in der Philosophie des 20. Jahrhunderts zum 100. Erscheinungsjubiläum der Studie über das Gute (Zen no kenkyū, 1911),” University of Hildesheim, Germany, 5-9 September, 2011.
- Annual Meeting of the Nishida Philosophy Association, Kahoku, Nishida Kitaro Philosophy Museum, Kahoku, Japan, July 2011.
- “Rhythm & Vision: International Conference on Raimon Panikkar,” George Mason University, 8-10, April 2011.

Prof. Yusa has also radically reconfigured Japanese 330, “Japanese Culture through Film”, to incorporate a segment involving active group conversations on reactions to films. She taught this new version of the course for the first time in Fall 2012.

As major advisor for the Japanese program, **Massimiliano Tomasi** is pleased to report that the program had a significant increase in the number of majors last year. According to Factbook, the program went from 21 majors in the fall of 2011 to 44 majors in the fall of 2012.

日  
本  
語

In the fall of 2011, Prof. Tomasi became the new Director of the Center for East Asian Studies. The Center has hosted a variety of events over the last several months including an international conference on the modern Japanese author Akutagawa Ryunosuke (<http://www.acadweb.wvu.edu/eesp/template/akutagawa/index.shtml>).

Western Washington University’s Tuscan Summer program was once again very successful. Prof. Tomasi continues to lead students to Siena, Italy, every summer, and the program is now in its sixth year ([http://www.acadweb.wvu.edu/eesp/template/studyabroad/home\\_siena.shtml](http://www.acadweb.wvu.edu/eesp/template/studyabroad/home_siena.shtml)).



Congratulations are due to **Masanori Deguchi** who was promoted to associate professor with tenure in Spring 2012! In other news, Prof. Deguchi attended two conferences to present papers on passives in Japanese: the Annual Meeting of the German Linguistic Society at Georg-August University in Göttingen, Germany in March 2011 and the 2012 Interdisciplinary Linguistics Conference at Queen’s University, Belfast, Northern Ireland in November 2012. In addition, he has published four articles since 2011 (see pp. 15-16 below).

# RUSSIAN

русский

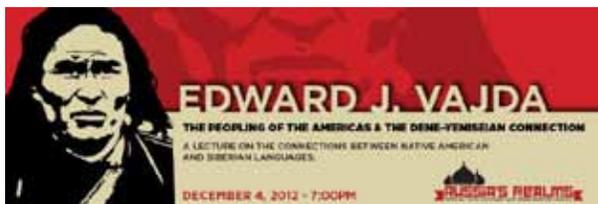


The fantastic Prof. Vajda visiting Opusztaszer Museum near Szeged, Hungary, outdoor exhibit showing early Hungarian pastoral lifestyle.

*Hey, what's cooking over there? Smells delicious!*



While still holding down the fort as Director of the Linguistics Program, Professor **Edward Vajda** was away on professional leave from January to June 2012 and September to December 2012 to work on his Etymological Dictionary of the Yeniseian Languages. In connection with research on this project, during Fall 2012 he was guest scholar at the Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology in Leipzig, Germany. In January 2012, at the 85th Annual Meeting of the Linguistics Society of America in Portland, Oregon, he organized a panel on complex morphology. He also gave invited lectures at Miami University, University of Kentucky, Ohio State University, University of Alaska Fairbanks, University of Kansas, University of Rochester, University of Zielona Gora (Poland), University of Szeged (Hungary), and Institute of Linguistics, Budapest. From August 15-17 2012, he hosted the Athabaskan/Dene Conference at Western with the support of a \$21,000 Arctic Social Sciences Grant. The MCL Department and his students are so lucky to be connected to such a smart cookie!



Prof. Vajda with V.A. Romanenkova, native Ket speaker, Max Planck Institute, Leipzig.



# ESPAÑOL

**Paqui Paredes**, with her colleagues Mark Harpring and José Ballesteros, recently published the 2nd edition of the textbook *Voces de España*, an anthology of Spanish literature from its origins to the present. Last year, Prof. Paredes also authored *Gramática Avanzada*, an open sourced fourth-year grammar review available for download at [www.itsmorethanatextbook.com](http://www.itsmorethanatextbook.com), an iPhone and iPad application “Everyday Spanish: Basic Grammar Review”, and a chapter in an edited volume, “El trazo de la identidad posmoderna en *Yo no tengo la culpa de haber nacido tan sexy*, de Eduardo Mendicutti”. Finally, in Fall 2012, she gave a talk with Sandra Alfes (German) on “Using Apps and Online Books in the L2 Classroom” at the 2012 Washington Association of Foreign Language Teachers Fall Conference in Vancouver, WA.

**Shaw Gynan** is back in the saddle as World Languages Endorsement Advisor after a hiatus of nearly 15 years, during which he taught methods of world language and literacy instruction to teachers in Paraguay who are speakers of seven different indigenous languages. The photo below shows Prof. Gynan with his methods students Raymond Bentson (Chinese, French, and Spanish), Blane Gosselin (German), Ethan Johnson (Spanish and ASL), Se-Hyeon Oh (Korean and ESL), and Loren Johnson (Arabic, French, and Latin). Prof. Gynan and his students traveled to the Washington Association for Language Teaching Spring Regional Conference in Ellensburg, Washington, in 2012 to deliver a workshop on direct methods for teaching six world languages.



Prof. Gynan completed his 12th trip to Paraguay in the summer of 2012, during which he returned to Karcha Bahlut, a town with no electricity or running water that is home to 50 Ishir families. He returned to accept an invitation to deliver a second week-long workshop on methods of language and literacy instruction in the endangered Ishir language of the Zamuco family. Fewer than 1,500 people speak this language, but vitality in Karcha Bahlut is over 90%. Pictured above are Prof. Gynan with the director of the school, Freni Barras, and her brother who is also a teacher there, Alejo Barras. The children pictured voluntarily attended the entire workshop. By the end of the workshop, they were all writing in their native Ishir for the first time. Prof. Gynan will be speaking about his experiences with the Ishir at the University of Manoa in Hawaii at the 3rd International Conference on Language Documentation and Conservation.

**Blanca Aranda** is offering a new Spanish 450 in Winter 2013, “Oralidad y textualidad en los Andes y Mesoamérica”. Since she is interested in promoting a new approach to two very well known authors, José María Arguedas and Juan Rulfo, Prof. Aranda has designed this class to explore the oral component in the novels *Los ríos profundos* (Arguedas) and *Pedro Páramo* (Rulfo). Tracing the path of orality, the course aims to reconstruct an intertextual web that goes beyond the written text, and in doing so, the students will have the opportunity to visit alternative texts and textual practices: Andean and Mesoamerican textiles, the Quechua manuscript *Dioses y hombres y Huarochiri*, the K’iche’ narrative of the Popol Wuj, and traditional oral tales from both regions.



Blog to be constructed with the students

**Joan Hoffman** has been awarded a two-quarter sabbatical for Winter and Spring 2013 to work on her textbook, *Voces femeninas*, on Spanish Women Writers throughout history. To test parts of this textbook, Prof. Hoffman offered a new Spanish 450 in Spring 2012 with the same title and involved her students in the process of evaluating the text’s efficacy.

In September 2012, Prof. Hoffman attended the National Association of Hispanic and Latin Studies Eastern Regional Meeting in Orlando, Florida, where she presented the paper “Looking Beyond ‘los ojos de cristal’: Vision and [In]Sight in ‘La vieja’ by Caterina Albert i Paradís [Victor Català].” She has also published reviews of *Women in the Prose of María de Zayas* by Eavan O’Brien and *From the Outside Looking in: Narrative Frames and Narrative Spaces in the Short Stories of Emilia Pardo Bazán* by Susan Walter for the journal *Hispania*.

Besides being highly involved in the United Faculty of Western Washington and in study-abroad advising for Spanish, Prof. Hoffman has been active in a faculty-led study abroad program in Spain. For the last two summers, she and Seán Dwyer (Spanish) have accompanied Prof. Alberto Ferreiro of Seattle Pacific University in taking groups of students to study in Salamanca, Spain through Prof. Ferreiro’s program, Centro Fray Luis de León. The students, from both SPU and Western, study at the University of Salamanca—Spain’s oldest university, dating from the year 1218. They also take coursework either from Prof. Hoffman or Prof. Ferreiro, earning degree credit in the process. In addition, students visit Madrid, Segovia, Ávila, Toledo, and Aveiro, Portugal; they experience Spanish culture, including tapas and flamenco; and they practice their language skills. During the summer of 2012, the group had the unforgettable pleasure of watching Spain beat Italy in the EuroCup Soccer Championships and of participating in the explosion of communal joy that took place in the Plaza Mayor in Salamanca, and throughout Spain, following the victory. The professors will be taking another group of students during the summer of 2013.

## FACULTY PUBLICATIONS

The faculty members of MCL have been very productive in research the last couple of years. Below is a guide to publications from the offices of Miller Hall.

### *Sandra Alfors*

Online textbook: *Auf Spurensuche: Ein Lesebuch*. 2013. [www.itsmorethanatextbook.com](http://www.itsmorethanatextbook.com).

I-Phone and I-Pad application: “German Review: For Beginners”. 2011.

Article: “Writing from Within: Else Dormitzer in Theresienstadt (1943-1945)”. *Journal of Teaching and Education* 1:4 (2012): 141-147.



Book Review: Hofmann Gert; Rachel MagShamhráin; Marko Pajević; Michael Shields; eds. *German and European Poetics after the Holocaust. Crisis and Creativity*. Rochester, NY: Camden House, 2011. 318 pp. *Gegenwartsliteratur: Ein germanistisches Jahrbuch* 11.2 (2012): 344-347.

### *Masanori Deguchi*

“Two Indirect Passive Constructions in Japanese”. Forthcoming. In: Artemis Alexiadou and Florian Schäfer (eds.) *Non-Canonical Passives*, John Benjamins.



“Marking of Speech Act Distinctions in Japanese and English”. 2012. *Journal of Language Teaching and Research*.

“Revisiting the Thetic/Categorical Distinction in Japanese”. 2012. *Poznan Studies in Contemporary Linguistics*.

“The Role of Foot Structure in Teaching Vowel Length Distinctions in Japanese”. 2011. *Theory and Practice in Language Studies*.

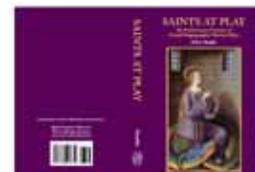
### Petra Fiero

“Vladimir Vertlib's Selbstverständnis als österreichischer Schriftsteller russisch-jüdischer Herkunft.” Forthcoming. In: *Deutsch-jüdische Identität. Mythos und Wirklichkeit. Ein neuer Diskurs?* Ed. Norbert Honsza and Przemysław Sznurkowski. Peter Lang.



### Vicki Hamblin

*Saints at Play: The Performance Features of French Hagiographic Mystery Plays* (Medieval Institute Publication, 2012) = A survey of 28 French saints' plays from the late medieval era that compares and contrasts their textual and extra-textual performance features.



### Cecile Hanania

“Marguerite Duras: Impressions d’Afrique.” In Limam-Tnani, Najet (ed.), *Marguerite Duras: altérité et étrangeté, la douleur de l’écriture et de la lecture*”, Presses Universitaires de Rennes, coll. “Interférences”, Rennes, 2013: 121-137.



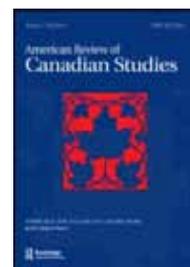
“La traversée du cygne: Henri Raczymow de l’autre côté de chez Swann.” In Bami, Joseph (ed.), *Lecteurs de Proust au XXe siècle et au début du XXIe*. Caen: Minard, Revue des Lettres Modernes, série “Marcel Proust”, n°9, 2012: 245-271.

“Mantegna, le Greco et Goya dans Dix heures et demie du soir en été: du brouillon au brouillage.” In Loignon, Sylvie (ed.), *Les archives de Marguerite Duras, Grenoble: Editions littéraires et linguistiques de l’Université de Grenoble*, coll. “La fabrique de l’œuvre”, 2012: 117-134.

### Christina Keppie

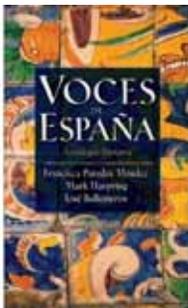
“L’Acadie communautaire: Today’s New Brunswick Speech Community. Forthcoming. *Journal of Diversity*.

“Meaning Systems of Two Identity Concepts: Acadie versus Acadien”. Forthcoming. *American Review of Canadian Studies*.



“Tradition or Empowerment? The Battle of the Acadian Capital(s)”. 2012. Vesna Lopičić and Biljana Mišić Ilić (eds.), *Challenging Change: Literary and Linguistic Responses*. Newcastle: Cambridge Scholars Publishing, p. 83-92.

### Paqui Parades Mendez



Textbook: *Voces de España*, 2nd Edition. Textbook. Co-authored with Mark Harpring and José Ballesteros. Boston: Cengage, 2013.

Online textbook: *Gramática Avanzada*. 2012. [www.itsmorethanatextbook.com](http://www.itsmorethanatextbook.com).

Chapter in edited volume: “El trazo de la identidad posmoderna en Yo no tengo la culpa de haber nacido tan sexy, de Eduardo Mendicutti.” In *Una ética de la libertad: La narrativa de Eduardo Mendicutti*. Ed. José Jurado Morales. Madrid: Visor Libros, 2012.

### Cornelius Partsch

Online Textbook: *In 1920s Berlin with Emil*. 2012. [www.itsmorethanatextbook.com](http://www.itsmorethanatextbook.com).

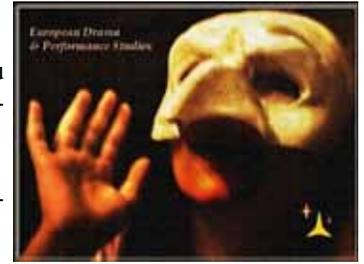
Margaret T. Gonglewski, Beverly T. Moser and Cornelius Partsch. *Treffpunkt Deutsch*. Sixth Edition. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson Prentice Hall, 2012.



## Scott Taylor

“Reconfiguring Character: Machinic Semiosis and Autopoietic Subjectivity in Sarraute’s *Pour un oui ou pour un non*”. *European Drama and Performance Studies*, Var. 1, March 2012, pp.11, peer-reviewed on-line publication, ISSN 2045-8541.

“Croisades in Québec: On the Semiotics of Performance and Contemporary French/Francophone ‘Dramaturgie’”. Review: *The Journal of Dramaturgy*, Vol. 22.2. Winter 2012.



## Janet Xing

Edited Volume (2012): *The Newest Trends in the Study of Grammaticalization and Lexicalization in Chinese*. Berlin: Mouton de Gruyter.



Book (2011): *A Contrastive Model of Teaching Chinese to Native English Speakers* [Guobiehua Duiwai Hanyu Jiaoxuefa.] Beijing: Peking University Press.

Book chapter (2012): “Semantic change in the grammaticalization of classifiers in Chinese”. In Janet Xing (ed.) *Newest Trends in the Study of Grammaticalization and Lexicalization in Chinese*, pp. 169-213.

Book chapter (2012): “Introduction”. In Janet Xing (ed.) *Newest Trends in the Study of Grammaticalization and Lexicalization in Chinese*, pp. 1-19. Mouton de Gruyter.



Journal article (2011): “Pedagogy and Acquisition of Chinese Words” [Duiwai hanyu cihui jiaoxuefa chutan]. *Journal of the Chinese Language Teachers Association*, Vol. 46:2, pp. 71-97.

## Michiko Yusa

“An Advaitic Matter: Pebbles Speak,” CIRPIT Review, Supplement No. 3, Proceedings George Mason University, Fairfax, USA, 2011, (Milano: Mimesis Edizioni, 2012), 99-115.

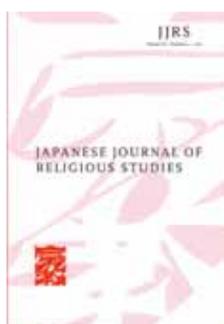
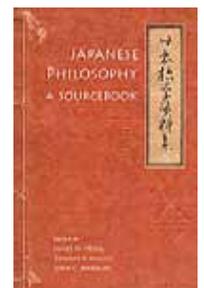
“Ecosophy and Saigū, The Sacred Office of Imperial Princess,” in Gerard Hall & Joan Hendriks, ed., *Dreaming a New Earth: Raimon Panikkar & Indigenous Spiritualities*, (Preston, Victoria: Mosaic Press, 2012), 93-113.

“Tetsugaku to shinpi no hazama—kaigai yori mita Nishida tetsugaku” [Philosophy and the Mystery—Nishidan Philosophy as Viewed in Abroad], Fujita Masakatsu, ed., [*A Centennial of An Inquiry into the Good: To the Global Community/From the Global Community*], (Kyoto: University of Kyoto Academic Press, 2011), 327-346.

“Nishida Kitarō,” Biographical information and selection, for the *Japanese Philosophy: A Sourcebook*, ed., James Heisig, John Maraldo & Thomas Kasulis (Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press, 2011), 646-647, 662-668.

“Overview, Japanese Women Philosophers,” “Yosano Akiko,” “Hiratsuka Raichō,” “Yamakawa Kikue,” *Japanese Philosophy: A Sourcebook*, James Heisig, John Maraldo & Thomas Kasulis (Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press, 2011), 1115-1126, 1138-1159.

<solicited essay in a newsletter> “Kokusai Tetsugaku Kōryū Sesshion 2011, Shimpojium gaiyō” [Symposium on the International Philosophical Exchange 2011—A Look back], Nishida Tetsugakukai Kaihō [Annual Newsletter of the Association for Nishida Philosophy] 9 (2011), 5-6.



<solicited essay in a newsletter> “Amerika ni okeru Nishida tetsugaku to Zen no kenkyū” [Nishida Philosophy in the U.S. and the Inquiry into the Good], Nishida Tetsugakukai Kaihō [Annual Newsletter of the Association for Nishida Philosophy] 9 (2011), 3-5.

<book review> Sakai Naoki & Isomae Jun’ichi, ed., *Overcoming Modernity and the Kyoto School: Modernity, Empire, and Universality*, in: *Japanese Journal of Religious Studies* 39.2 (2012), 391-94.

<book review> B. W. Davis, B. Schroeder, & J. M. Wirth, ed., *Japanese and Continental Philosophy: Conversations with the Kyoto School*, (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2011), *Journal of Asian Studies* 71.4 (2012), 1142-45.

# Fantastic Student

C  
O  
N  
T  
R  
I  
B  
U  
T  
I  
O  
N  
S  
T  
O  
M  
C  
L

Our department really does have some great students doing great work. Here is just a sample of the talent we have roaming our halls:



**Nathan Shorb** will be graduating this spring with a degree in Linguistics and a minor in French. During his time at Western, he has been a Linguistics Club officer and has worked with Dr. Denham as a representative for the North American Computational Linguistics Olympiad, as well as introducing linguistic topics to middle school students in Bellingham with the goal of providing a better perspective of English and language in general. Nathan also volunteers at Sehome High School helping with the *On Parle!* French conversational program.



Coming from **Sean Guynes**: “I will be presenting a paper at the UT-Arlington Student Conference in Linguistics and TESOL for the second year in a row. This year I will present research on how Dungeons & Dragons players linguistically switch between and blur game-play roles (character, player, person, and Dungeon Master or referee) by producing utterances that, in one context or another, may be ‘indexicalized’ so as to identify the speaker as ‘playing’ one or more roles. I am also currently working on research regarding gender in the comic-book fandom and hope to publish and present on that this summer in Maastricht, The Netherlands.” Sean also had his article “The Balto-Slavic Hypothesis: A Comparative Reconstruction” accepted for publication in the *International Journal of Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities*.



*How about a phonetically-written poetic tongue twister?*

Les bons bonbons, ce sont les miens!  
Et vous pourrez tous, vous n’avez rien!  
Mais, “si vous avez une bonne raison,  
C’est possible que je vous en donne”...Non!  
Quelqu’un...lui a dit un grand mensonge!  
“C’est trop mauvais..,” tu crois - et c’est vrai,  
Donc je ris, ris, ris et vous criez criez criez -  
mais, à la fin, comme le lapin, je me consume  
comme un bon verre de vin.

le bõ bõbõ sә sõ le mjẽ  
e vu pure tus vu nave rjẽ  
me si vuz ave yn bõn rezõ  
se põsibl̩ kә zә vuz ă dõn nõ  
kelkœ luj̩ a di œ grã mãsõz  
se tro move ty krwa e se vre  
dõk zә ri ri ri e vu krije krije krije  
me a la fẽ kõm lә lapẽ zәm kõsym  
kõm œ bõ ver dy vẽ

**Alyssa Clary, FR 314**

MCL has also recently graduated several amazing students who have gone on to begin graduate work, such as **Scott Cawthon** at the University of Indiana (on full scholarship) and **Katherine Jussaume** at New York University. They have a bright future ahead of them!!





And wait, there's more! -

"I am pleased to be named the recipient of MCL's scholarship sponsored by Eurice D. Faber and to have received the CHSS Advancement Council Scholarship. I hope to work in Brazil next year under the Fulbright U.S. English Teaching Assistantship program."

From **Rebecca Donaldson**:

"As a Spanish and Linguistics double major and under the mentorship of Dr. Kendra Douglas, I have co-presented with classmate Ms. Daniela Tinoco to my peers and professors at Scholars Week on phonological borrowing and to professors across campus in support of the peer teaching pedagogical method, sponsored by the Center for Instructional Innovation and Assessment. This February, I will present at the Second Annual Hispanic and Luso-Brazilian graduate conference at Arizona State on Spanish semantics."

## A Postcard from Germany

German-major **Liana Lewis** (2012) is currently spending the year in Germany. She is one of several German students who received prestigious scholarships between 2011 and 2012.



Liebe LeserInnen,

My time in Germany working as a Fulbright assistant has been a wonderful experience. I started my year in the tiny village of Breitungen, Thuringia, Germany. My school assignment was at a Gymnasium in nearby Kaltensundheim, where I worked for 12 hours each week. My time was balanced between grades 5 through 12, and I worked on topics ranging from grammar to the U.S. election to holiday traditions. I got to know some wonderful people at the school and loved my time in the classroom. In my free time, I traveled to Italy and France, as well as a long list of cities within Germany. After a lot of personal reflection, however, I realized that living in Breitungen was too isolated for me, and made the choice to change my placement.

Since the start of January, I have been living and working in the university town of Jena, Thuringia. The city is definitely a big change from Breitungen, and I'm enjoying the opportunities here. My German fluency has improved notably, and there's even a weekly Stammtisch, just like at Western, but this time it's in English! I'm delving into work at my new school and looking forward to helping the students through a book connected to Seattle – "The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian" by Sherman Alexie.

Even though my year is just over halfway finished, I wish I could stay here forever. Every day I learn new information about German culture, enjoy the growing minds and English skills of adorable German children, and get to pursue a life I've always hoped for.

Herzliche Grüße aus Deutschland von Liana

## Also from our German section...

The assignment, part of **Petra Fiero's** 402 Advanced German, was to write a letter of complaint. The student had just seen the Oscars and wrote a tongue-in-cheek complaint to Angelina Jolie about her outfit and how beautiful she is - especially her leg. Surely the German readers out there would love to translate!

Sehr geehrte Angelina Jolie,

gestern Abend habe ich die Oscars angeschaut. Ich war sehr überrascht, wie viel Talent dieses Jahr vorhanden war. Leider konnte ich mich nicht darauf konzentrieren, denn das Kleid von Ihnen war viel zu freizügig. Man konnte fast Ihr ganzes Bein sehen! Die ganze Situation war ungeheuerlich. Jedes Mal, wenn Sie zu sehen waren, standen Sie dort mit Ihrem Bein, das aus dem Kleid ragte. Ich möchte betonen, dass Sie ein sehr schönes rechtes Bein haben, für das Sie mit Sicherheit Stunden beim Fitnessstudio verbringen. Aber dieses Bein sollte nicht jedermann die Schau stehlen.

Es ist schade, das heute keiner über Meryl Streep oder Jean Dujardin redet, zwei Schauspieler, die für ihre harte Arbeit Preise gewonnen haben. Anstatt dass die Kunst der Filmkultur von Hollywood geehrt wird, gibt es jetzt 14 101 Leute auf Twitter, die über @AngiesRightLeg schreiben. Es ist sogar das Thema von einem Artikel auf der Titelseite von People.com. Der Punkt ist für mich, dass die Filme und Schauspieler, die nominiert wurden, viel wichtiger sind als Ihre Oberschenkel. Wenn Sie meinen, dass Sie einen Eindruck auf Brad Pitt machen sollen, es muss nicht sein. Sie haben sechs Kinder mit ihm, drei davon sind Ihre leiblichen Kinder; er weiß schon, wie Ihr Bein aussieht.

Sie müssen auch nicht der Welt zeigen, wie aufreizend Sie sind. Wir haben schon Ihre Filme gesehen, wir wissen es schon. Wir Frauen möchten nicht die ganze Zeit daran erinnert werden, dass wir nicht so wie Sie aussehen. Ich halte es für eine Frechheit, dass unsere Freunde und Männer Sie in Filmen halb nackt sehen und dann zeigen Sie auch fast so viel während einer Familiensendung. Sie haben eine schöne Figur und ein schönes Gesicht, aber Sie müssen es uns nicht immer wieder direkt unter die Nase reiben.

Ich erwarte, dass Sie sich entschuldigen für diesen Vorfall. Sie sollten sich auch anständig kleiden, wenn Sie in der Öffentlichkeit sind. Ich würde mir auch wünschen, dass Sie in Zukunft nicht so selbstsüchtig sind. Sie wurden nicht nominiert, Sie waren in keinem der Filme, die nominiert wurden, und Ihr Bein erst recht nicht.

Mit freundlichen Grüßen

Gesa Kohlmeier



# Oda al lápiz



El palito más libre deja creaciones milagrosas por donde pase.  
Se levanta del polvo y por rasgos pequeños lo deja. Rasguitos que se elaboran y se hacen círculos,  
caras,  
ojos,  
pestañas,  
niñas que  
ven esparcirse líneas como si  
fuesen ríos que corrieran  
por blanca nieve y se ensuciasen  
y se volvieran negros.  
Este palito, noble, pequeño, crea vida  
y la vuelve a tomar con cada trazo.  
Se traza el brillo de un nuevo mundo al que  
Se escapan los artistas.  
Crea un mundo en que no pueden traspasar las frustraciones e imperfecciones  
del que somos.  
Se dibujan galaxias,  
en que no hay duda,  
ni miedo,  
sino amor,  
sonrisas,  
vida  
e imaginación sin restricción alguna.

El grafito se convierte en una puerta que se  
abre con trazos ligeros y oscuros, con  
pensamiento, con el simple toque de una mano  
que conduce a la libertad.

**Jacobo Price, SPAN 340 - Intro to Hispanic Literature**

## Faculty Tidbit Trivia

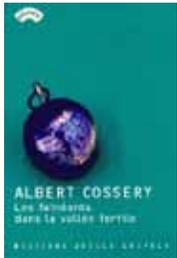
Which faculty/staff member is a big fan of the artist Zaz and all gypsy-pop music?

- a. Holly Childs
- b. Blanca Aranda
- c. Michiko Yusa
- d. Vicki Hamblin



# RECOMMENDATIONS ~ for all things that inspire and nourish our body, mind and soul

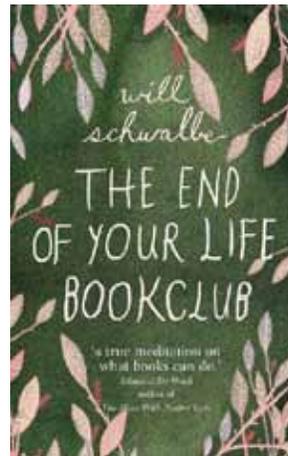
## Good Reads:



**Cécile Hanania** recently discovered the work of the Francophone Egyptian writer, Albert Cossery (1913-2008). She recommends his novel, *Les fainéants dans la vallée fertile* (Paris, Joëlle Losfeld / in English: The Lazy Ones, London, Peter Owen), initially published in 1948. The novel depicts with great humor the lifestyle of three Egyptian men who defy modern society and its pressures to be productive by spending their time sleeping.



**Petra Fiero** is a fan of *The End of Your Life Book Club* by Will Schwalbe, an inspiring true story of a son and his mother who start a “book club” that brings them together as her life comes to a close. Reviews encourage readers to have tissues at the ready.



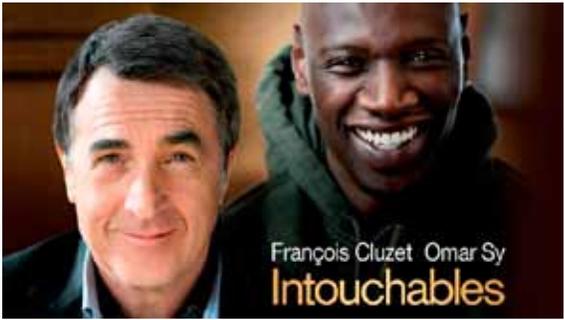
**Cornelius Partsch** applauds Michal Ajvaz’s *The Other City*, a fantastic journey through Prague, in a kind of parallel reality. In the words of reviewer Jonathan Bolton of CONTEXT, “...reading such a world means stepping inside it, letting it infect you, bruise, scrape, poison and obsess you.”



**Paqui Paredes**, who is never without a book while commuting to the office, recommends *Las lágrimas en la lluvia* by Rosa Montero. The novel reads as crime fiction set in a futuristic world. A great read that comes with some food for thought.



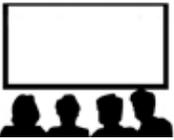
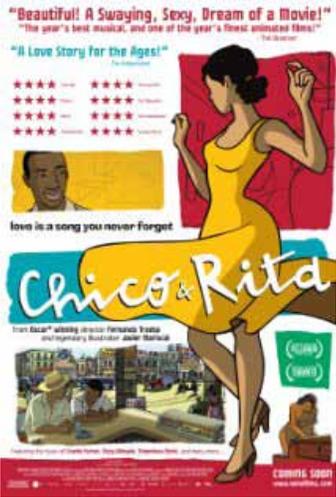
**Must-See Films:**



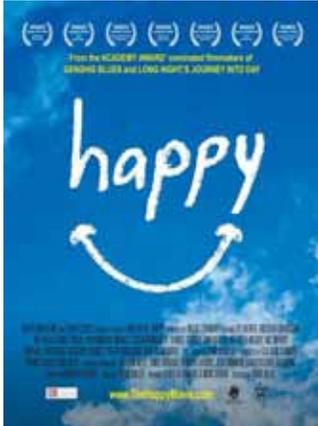
*Les Intouchables*, a French comedic drama based on a real story, has received quite the accolades. After he becomes a quadriplegic from a paragliding accident, an aristocrat hires a young man from the projects to be his caretaker. Highly recommended by the French faculty!



Always one who loves to stretch her imagination, **Paqui Paredes** greatly enjoyed *Blanca Nieves*, directed by Pablo Berger. This film is a Spanish take on the traditional tale of Snow White and is up for eight nominations in the “Premios Goya”, the Spanish equivalent to the Oscars.



A fan of Netflix documentaries, **Christina Keppie** loved *Happy*, an award-winning film by director Roko Belic who set out to explore the secrets of our most valued emotion.



*Chico y Rita*, a wonderful animated film for adults – finally! – and music lovers, makes **Cornelius Partsch** very happy.



The 2012 British drama *Anna Karenina*, directed by Joe Wright, will have you in awe of the costumes and production design, not to mention Keira Knightley’s performance. **Petra Fiero** gives the film two big thumbs up!



## Magical Music:



You may catch **Petra Fiero** swaying to the tunes of *Judy Frankel*, Singer and Preserver of Shephardic Music. Petra especially likes *Sephardic Songs of Love and Hope* and *Canticas Sephardis de Amor y Esperansa*. You can listen to her tunes here: <http://www.judyfrankel.org/music/sephmusic.html>.



Who doesn't love a good dose of American Rock n' Roll? **Cornelius Partsch** enjoys cranking up the volume to Bruce Springsteen's *Wrecking Ball* album. You can read the Rolling Stone's review of this fantastic collection of songs by following this link:

<http://www.rollingstone.com/music/albumreviews/wrecking-ball-20120306>



**Christina Keppie** has liked *Florent Vollant* since he released *Eku Mamu* in 2009. This album contains songs in Innu, French, and English. Vollant is an Innu folk singer from Maliotenam, Quebec and has tasted great success as half of the popular folk music duo Kashtin, one of the most important musical groups in First Nations history. You can listen to the title track of his 2009 album here: <http://www.postedecoute.ca/catalogue/album/florent-vollant-eku-mamu>.



## Faculty Tidbit Trivia

Who in the MCL department is a self-acknowledged *Words-With-Friends* addict?

- Petra Fiero
- Sandra Alfors
- Shaw Gynan
- Scott Taylor



## Good Eats:

Let's start with one of **Petra Fiero's** famous desserts: a traditional **Quarkkuchen**.



*Nothing like a droolicious  
cheesecake to get the belly  
rumbling!*

### Dough:

150 g flour  
1 tsp. baking powder + some baking soda  
65 g sugar  
2 egg yolks  
50 g margarine  
1 Tbsp. milk

Form a dough with these ingredients and put it into a greased springform pan.



### Käsecreme:

750 g magerquark (= reduced fat quark, available at the Co-op)  
150 g sugar  
1 packet vanilla sugar (or some vanilla flavor)  
3 egg yolks  
some lemon juice  
¼ l heavy cream (not whipped)

Mix everything in a bowl with a mixer.



-Add a package of Käsekuchenhilfe (these are packages Petra brings from Germany, but a packet of vanilla pudding powder does the same trick).

-Add the 5 egg whites (beaten stiff).

(For these last two steps do not use the mixer but a spatula.)

-Add a small can of rinsed mandarins (optional).

-Bake at 150-170 Celsius, about 340 Fahrenheit, for 90 minutes.

-Let the cake cool down, sprinkle the powdered sugar on top, and chill the cake in the refrigerator.

ENJOY!



**Christina Keppie's** gluten-free  
**sun dried tomato turkey  
meatloaf.**

- In a medium-sized bowl, combine 2lbs lean ground turkey, 1 egg, 1 1/3 C milk, and 3 slices of gluten-free bread (whizzed into crumbs).

- Add 1/3 C chopped sun dried tomatoes, diced shallots, garlic, salt, pepper, and fresh poultry herbs (all to taste). Mix well.

-Place in a parchment-lined 9x9 glass baking dish. Top with crushed hazelnuts or pecans (press them lightly into the turkey).

- Bake at 375 F for 50-60 minutes.

- Try not to eat it all at once!

On her recent trip to Tuscany, **Michiko Yusa** discovered a delicious recipe for kale, that nutrition-packed leafy green that's amazing from raw and cooked. Here, it's paired with polenta.



Add parmigiano, "if you wish"?! OF COURSE!

Try all 3 of these recipes at once and you may end up like this

### Traditional *polenta con cavolo nero*

- Cook one bunch of chopped black kale in olive oil with a little bit of garlic and salt and pepper.
- Meanwhile, prepare 2 cups of polenta. When the polenta is done (in 20 minutes), stir in the sautéed kale. Shape the mixture into an oblong "loaf" shape, and cool in the refrigerator.
- When firm, slice the polenta mix into 1 cm-thick slices, place them on a lightly oiled baking sheet, and bake at a medium temperature in the oven until golden.
- You could sprinkle with grated parmigiano cheese, if you wish. Serve warm or cold. This is a nice departure from the good old boring polenta.



Are you part of a local CSA (Community Supported Agriculture)?

Whatcom County has several that bring fresh, local, and organic goodies straight to your door.

Here's a link for those interested:  
<http://www.communityfood.coop/coop/wp-content/uploads/2011/05/CSA-2011.pdf>



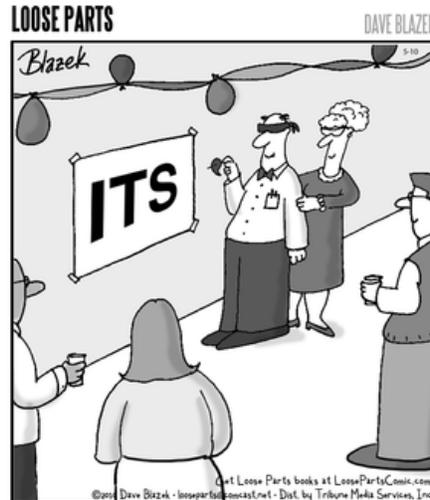
## Faculty Tidbit Trivia

Who refuses to buy footwear at full price?

- Hugo Garcia
- Christina Keppie
- Lisa Weed
- Tamer Hussein



# THE FUNNY PAGE!



The games get pretty crazy at English teachers' parties.



## Ode to a Spell Chequer

I have a spelling chequer  
 It came with my PC  
 It plainly marks for my revue  
 miss takes I cannot see  
 I've run this poem threw it  
 I'm shore your pleased two no  
 its letter perfect in its weigh  
 my chequer tolled me sew.

Got jokes?  
 Send them our way!

## How to Write Good, by Frank L. Visco

My several years in the word game have learnt me several rules:

1. Avoid Alliteration. Always.
2. Prepositions are not words to end sentences with.
3. Avoid cliches like the plague. (They're old hat.)
4. Employ the vernacular.
5. Eschew ampersands & abbreviations, etc.
6. Parenthetical remarks (however relevant) are unnecessary.
7. It is wrong to ever split an infinitive.
8. Contractions aren't necessary.
9. Foreign words and phrases are not apropos.
10. One should never generalize.
11. Eliminate quotations. As Ralph Waldo Emerson once said, "I hate quotations. Tell me what you know."
12. Comparisons are as bad as cliches.
13. Don't be redundant; don't use more words than necessary; it's highly superfluous.
14. Profanity sucks.
15. Be more or less specific.
16. Understatement is always best.
17. Exaggeration is a billion times worse than understatement.
18. One word sentences? Eliminate.
19. Analogies in writing are like feathers on a snake.
20. The passive voice is to be avoided.
21. Go around the barn at high noon to avoid colloquialisms.
22. Even if a mixed metaphor sings, it should be derailed.
23. Who needs rhetorical questions?

Grammarly.com  
 facebook.com/grammarly

# Faculty Roster

## Tenured and Tenure-track Faculty

Sandra Alfers – Associate Prof. of German  
Blanca Aranda – Assistant Prof. of Spanish  
Brent Carbajal – Professor of Spanish, Dean for College of Humanities and Social Sciences  
Masanori Deguchi – Associate Prof. of Japanese/Linguistics  
Kendra Douglas – Assistant Prof. of Spanish/Linguistics  
Shannon Dubenion-Smith – Assistant Prof. of German/Linguistics  
Petra Fiero – Professor of German  
Hugo García – Associate Prof. of Spanish  
Shaw Gynan – Professor of Spanish/Linguistics  
Vicki Hamblin – Professor of French, Director of the Center for International Studies  
Cécile Hanania – Professor of French  
Joan Hoffman – Professor of Spanish  
Janice Kam – Assistant Prof. of Chinese  
Christina Keppie – Assistant Prof. of French/Linguistics  
Edouard Ousselin – Professor of French  
Paqui Paredes – Associate Prof. of Spanish, Department Chair  
Cornelius Partsch – Professor of German  
Charles Patterson – Assistant Prof. of Spanish  
Daniel Rangel-Guerrero – Associate Prof. of Spanish  
Massimiliano Tomasi – Professor of Japanese, Director of the Center for East Asian Studies  
Edward Vajda – Professor of Russian, Director of Linguistics  
Janet Xing – Professor of Chinese/Linguistics  
Michiko Yusa – Professor of Japanese, East Asian Studies

## Limited-term Faculty

Mauricio Araniva – Instructor of Spanish  
Jordan Brewer – Visiting Assistant Prof. of Linguistics  
Amy Carbajal – Senior Instructor of Spanish  
Sharon Chang – Visiting Assistant Prof. of Chinese  
Kirsten Drickey – Visiting Assistant Prof. of Spanish  
Sean Dwyer – Instructor of Spanish  
Eduardo Engelsing – Visiting Assistant Prof. of Classics  
David Fiero – Visiting Assistant Prof. of Spanish  
Miriam Hostetler – Instructor of French  
Tamer Hussein – Instructor of Arabic  
Madoka Kusakabe – Visiting Assistant Prof. of Japanese  
Luis Gonzalo Portugal – Visiting Assistant Prof. of Spanish  
Mary Ann Rangel – Senior Instructor of Spanish  
Sarah Rowan – Instructor of Spanish  
Dwan Shipley – Senior Instructor of Linguistics  
Byron Stayskal – Visiting Assistant Prof. of Classics  
Scott Taylor – Visiting Assistant Prof. of French  
Ho-chin Yang – Visiting Assistant Prof. of Chinese  
Xiucai Zheng – Visiting Assistant Prof. of Chinese

## Staff

Holly Childs – Program Coordinator  
Lisa Weed – Administrative Services Manager