

Language Links

Fall 2016

A Publication of the Department of Modern Language Studies at Kutztown University



AREA WORLD LANGUAGE EDUCATORS USE IN-SERVICE DAY TO DEVELOP AND ASSESS INTERPERSONAL COMMUNICATION

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[The presenter] gave us a lot of new ideas for our students and it was so engaging that the day just flew by. The best part was meeting many other colleagues for the first time and sharing our experiences and ideas with each other. It was definitely the most meaningful in-service workshop I have ever attended, and I would love to participate in more like it.” -Ashley Snyder (BSEd German, BA Pennsylvania German Studies, 2009)



¡El
día
de
los
muertos!

l-r: Mariah Little, Amber Light and Ashleigh Hughes, all SPA 104 students.

The KU Multipurpose Room came alive on Wednesday, October 26, 2016 with the *Día de los muertos* (Day of the Dead) celebration! This unique holiday honors the memories of loved ones who have passed away or who live far away by celebrating the beauty of life. Over 200 students, faculty, and staff attended this three-hour event that featured myriad hands-on activities as well as tasty food.

The Department of Modern Language Studies was well-represented at this event: Dr. Carolina Moctezuma's SPA 345 "Latin American Culture and Civilization" class prepared beautiful and informative posters about the Day of the Dead, which adorned the entry into the room. Dr. Dawn Slack's SPA 207 "Writing in Spanish for the Professional World" and SPA 212 "Spanish Composition" students created "Calaveras," satiric poems mocking death typically written and published at this time of the year, which were on display. Dr. Nancy Zimmerman's classes organized a comment table so that participants could communicate their perspectives about this multicultural celebration, which is a great way to get people thinking while they are experiencing new events.

The Organization for Latino Awareness (OLA) student club hosted a table where participants could decorate their own skull magnets while the Sigma Lambda Beta international fraternity offered hand-made candy skulls to paint. Professor Kevin McCloskey (Communication Design) displayed many intriguing prints and students were invited to carve and ink their own print. Dr. Slack and Professor McCloskey also worked together to create a "Day of the Dead" ofrenda display, in one of the main MSU hall display cases, featuring art and artifacts related to this holiday. To complement the crafts and exhibits, Petritza Chatzitziva (KU Student Involvement Services) contracted the Rey Azteca Mariachi band and the Ballet Folklórico Yaretzi dance ensemble; both groups provided two stunningly beautiful performances.

Everyone in attendance enjoyed this interdisciplinary celebration, which was made possible by ACE, the Department of Modern Language Studies, OLA, and Sigma Lambda Beta. (for additional photos from the event, please see page 3).



¡El día de los muertos!



From the Day of the Dead celebration, which took place on October 26, 2016. For full story, please see page 2 of this issue of *Language Links*.

Student Receives Graduation Award

Irving Guzman-Rodriguez (BSEd Spanish) is the recipient of the Department of Modern Language Studies Award for Outstanding Graduate in Spanish for Fall 2016. Irving had 18 family members present at his graduation despite the icy, snowy weather.



l-r : Guzman-Rodriguez, Dr. Nancy Zimmerman (his student teaching supervisor)

Hildesheim Program to Expand



On September 20, MLS hosted a Hildesheim Program Reception for alumni as well as interested German and English students.

In 2013, the German section of the Department of Modern Language Studies established the exchange program to Hildesheim, Germany. Since then, it has become the most popular semester or full-year program at Kutztown University. This past summer, Dr. Simon

Roloff from the Creative Writing Department in Hildesheim contacted KU English Chair Andy Vogel with the goal of expanding the program to include up to four additional English department students, who would attend in early 2017.

Lauren Verna (BSEd English, German) Reports from Hildesheim



...schön hier

Lauren is currently spending her sophomore year abroad. She writes:

“ I’ve been in Hildesheim, Germany for about two and a half months now. My time here has been nothing short of magical, particularly right now, at Christmastime, which wouldn’t be complete without spontaneous trips to all the surrounding towns’ breathtaking Weihnachtsmärkte (Christmas Markets).

It took a couple weeks until I got into the swing of things, but once I joined a choir and made German friends, I’m speaking German much more and one of my friends even noted how much I’ve already improved since I got here! I love trying all the new foods (I think I’m going to eat fries with mayo instead of ketchup for the rest of my life now!) and visiting new places-- next month I’m going to Amsterdam! The people here are so helpful and welcoming, it really is like a dream. Every day really is a new adventure, from improving my German through raw experience and tough love to trying to convince my friends that you can totally cross the street at a red light when there are absolutely no cars coming (they won’t be swayed).

I’ve worked so hard to come here and I feel so blessed that I finally get to enjoy it all now. I’d invite anybody and everybody to study abroad and broaden their worldview, too!”



Verna on a trip to Berlin sponsored by Hildesheim’s International Office.



French Fries with Mayo

(www.mygermantravels.com)



The Christmas Market in Hildesheim

(www.weihnachtsmarkt-deutschland.de)

German Alumnus Performs in Germany



Chris performing in Hördt, Germany, on October 16, 2016.

by Chris LaRose (BA German, BA Theater, 2013)

This past October I was gifted with the wonderful opportunity of performing a series of concerts in Germany, but these were much different from the shows I normally play. These concerts were all in Pennsylvania Dutch. About a year ago a good friend of mine Douglas Madenford and I were contacted for the booking by *Hiwwe wie Driwwe*, the world's only publication written completely in PA Dutch. Dr. Michael Werner, the German founder and chief editor of *Hiwwe wie Driwwe*, asked us to perform four concerts as part of an educational program bringing PA Dutch back to its roots in the Palatinate region of Germany. Unfortunately around a month before our trip, Doug was struck with some news which prevented him from being able to accompany me for the concerts, so I went into overtime learning and translating additional songs to fill out the concert requirements. In the concerts I normally perform, I play mostly 50's and 60's rock, so this was a great opportunity to try something which had never been done before; 50's classics in PA Dutch, and they went over much better than I ever expected.

The four shows were stretched out across central Germany, all in regions with dialects strikingly similar to PA Dutch, Ober-Olm, Oberalben, Bockenheim and Hördt. The crowds, ranging from 30 to 500, were all very receptive. They were absolutely fascinated by PA Dutch, and they all understood it as if they were talking with a long time friend. They loved hearing the dialect sung in songs they already knew like Elvis Presley's "Hound Dog" and the ever famous "Country Roads" which I was lucky enough to perform at the final concert with a traditional thirteen piece Oompah band. I was treated like a celebrity, and I felt like I was on top of the world, and get this, at the final concert in Hördt one of the audience members had actually graduated from Kutztown University! She was a waitress in town, and upon graduating some twenty years ago moved to Germany and now owns a vineyard. What a small world!

11th German-Pennsylvanian Day: Chris LaRose schpielt im alte Land

Posted on September 25, 2016 by Michael Werner | [Leave a comment](#)



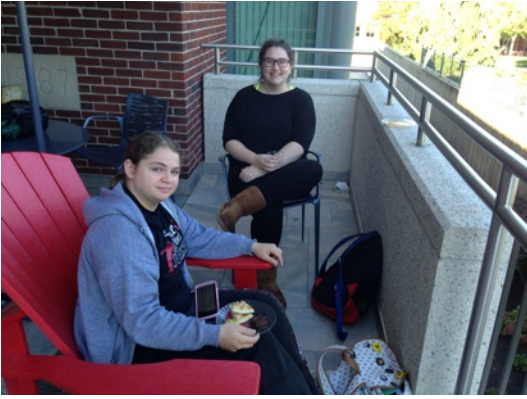
Der 11. Deutsch-Pennsylvanische Tag nemmt Platz am Sunndaag, October 16, 2016, in Hördt (Palatinate) im alte Land. Keynote Speaker – odder besser: "Singer" – iss in dem Yaahr Chris LaRose vun Kutzeschtettel. Er schpielt Lieder in Pennsylvanisch-Deitsch. Der Versammlung schtaert um 2 p.m.



coverage in *Hiwwe wie Driwwe*

<https://hiwwewiedriwwe.wordpress.com>

"zine" celebration features work of German major



clockwise from above: l-r: Taryn Farrigan-Scott, Rachael Cohen Hamilton; l-r Shannon McCarthy, Dr. Kutch; l-r: Harleigh Ortman, Mollie Will, Alex Green

On Oct. 5, 2016, the Rohrbach Library hosted a "Celebration of 'zines." On display were samples of 'zines by Professor Kevin McCloskey's Illustration students, among others. Professor McCloskey also provided a brief overview of what a 'zine is and how to produce one. The library is also currently exhibiting BA German student Shannon McCarthy's graphic novel version of the post-war German play *Draußen vor der Tür* (*The Man Outside*). McCarthy completed the graphic novel as her final project for Dr. Lynn M. Kutch's spring 2016 *Reading and Performing German Drama* seminar.



McCarthy's exhibit, which was displayed during the fall 2016 semester.

"The work of Dr. Kutch's students really enhanced KU's library! Not only were we privileged to display Shannon McCarthy's graphic adaptation of *Draußen vor der Tür* by Wolfgang Borchert, but Kariana Leinbach supplied the reception's soundtrack with her exceptional recording of 'Beckmann,' a piece she composed that's named for the protagonist of Borchert's play. Our café area was alight with excitement as a great mix of people, including students of Prof. McCloskey's design class, engaged with many flavors of storytelling. I think that Dr. Kutch's teaching brings the power of story to life for students who seize opportunities to become something more than consumers: they're interpreters and tellers of stories of their own." -Bruce Jensen, Librarian, Rohrbach Library.

Students Represent KU at Prestigious Business Event



Row 1 (l-r) Joeylynn Knott and Victoria Hildebrandt

Row 2 (l-r) Dr. Duane Crider, Samantha Kahres, Jessica Kurtz, and Jose Colon-Cruz.



On Monday, September 26, 2016, five KU student “ambassadors” represented KU, with Dr. Duane Crider (Sport Management and Leadership Studies), at the 32nd Annual Pennsylvania Chamber Centennial Annual Dinner event, which is billed as the “premier gathering of Pennsylvania’s business leaders and lawmakers.” The students, selected by their professors and advisors, reflect a wide range of majors and minors, including Spanish for Modern Business (¡Felicidades, Jose!), Studio Art, Sport Management, Entrepreneurship, Electronic Media, and Psychology.

During the event, keynote speaker Michael Strahan talked about the entrepreneurial mindset that led him first to a Super Bowl-winning professional football career and then to a successful media vocation. He most recently served as a co-host of ABC’s *Good Morning America* news and talk morning show and as an analyst for the *FOX NFL* Sunday program.

Another unique aspect of the event was that five Pennsylvania governors were invited: Gov. Tom Corbett, Gov. Edward Rendell, Gov. Tom Ridge, Gov. Mark Schweiker, and Gov. Tom Wolfe. Our KU students benefitted not only from Mr. Strahan’s talk about entrepreneurial flexibility but also from being able to network with the governors and other business leaders.

German Students' Organization Hosts St. Nikolaus Day Event



Tiffany Adams works on the Nikolaus Trivia Quiz.

PSECU

December 6, 2016, the German Students' Organization hosted a St. Nikolaus Day event. In Germany, children leave their shoes out for St. Nikolaus, who then fills them with candy, fruit, and nuts. Participants at the KU event completed a trivia quiz, made a shoe to store their treats, and sampled German Christmas cookies.

The event was made possible by club president Mason Smith's successful proposal for a PSECU sponsorship grant.



New KU Slavic Club

Wednesday December 7, 2016 marked the first annual Holiday party of the newly formed Slavic Club at Kutztown University. Under the very energetic leadership of "Tinky" (aka Shiyi Ding), the club currently consists of eight members, several native speaker mentors, and two faculty advisors, Dr. Douglas Lea (History) and Dr. Mary Theis (Department of Modern Language Studies). Standing outside of DF 107 that evening, passersby could not help but smell the Ukrainian borscht and hear club members laughing and singing Russian songs, watching short film clips, and chatting about everything from that beet soup to nuts. Everyone brought some Slavic dish to share and wished the two hours carved out of their busy last week of classes would not pass so quickly. After dinner, the group enjoyed magic tricks and played an unusual game of Charades that required impersonating various



famous politicians and then odd combinations of animals and adjectives, such as "wet fish."

Members and mentors hail from all over the world: Bulgaria, China, Russia, Nepal, the United States and Uzbekistan. As they learn about Russia and each other, each week members enjoy a smorgasbord of cultures, so it never gets old. They also enjoy special one-on-one lessons with their native speaker mentors, A.J. (Atajan Abdyev) and Shirikhon and Shodiyakhon Toshkhujaeva. The group has been meeting weekly from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. on Wednesdays in DF 107. The day and time of their meeting might change for the spring 2017 semester. Activities vary but



include watching short entertaining videos, Russian language lessons, Russian folk culture, films and brief lectures on Russian history, and of course, sharing food that the professors and members bring. The club is planning a field trip this spring to the Hillwood Museum in Washington D.C. Those interested in joining the club should contact Tinky (sding805@live), the club vice-president Uttam Paudel (upaud761@live) or the club secretary, Jada Avery (javer875@live).

Fall 2016 Grad Award

Adelen Geiger Wins Linda Oswald-Bogert Award



Department of Modern Language Studies Chair Dr. Christine Núñez explains Adelen's outstanding qualifications:

"Adelen has been an extremely dedicated student, successfully completing the following dual degree: BS Biology (Pre-med) and BA Spanish. In spring 2015, she was recognized at the CLAS Dean's Scholars Reception for academic excellence. In addition to her outstanding work at KU, she participated in the study abroad program in Valladolid Spain in summer 2015. She plans to travel extensively in Spain in the immediate future to further improve her Spanish conversational skills. Adelen exemplifies dedication to academic achievement, and we know this will follow through in her chosen career. Enhorabuena Adelen!"

l-r: Dr. Angelo Rodríguez, Dr. Christine Núñez, Adelen Geiger, Dr. Max Zúñiga.

Department of Modern Language Studies now in Old Main

We've moved! The Department of Modern Language Studies is now located on the second floor of Old Main, B Wing.

Department Chair: Dr. Christine Núñez, OM 233

Department Secretary: Ms. Merlene Oswald, OM 231



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Editor-in-Chief, Layout Design: Dr. Lynn M. Kutch

Editorial Board: Dr. Greg Hanson, Dr. Dawn Slack,

Dr. Nancy Zimmerman

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