

LANGUAGE LINKS

Spring 2014

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http://www.kutztown.edu/academics/liberal_arts/language/



How Far Would You
Go to Help a Child?

(photo: Students Helping Honduras Facebook page)

STUDENTS HELPING HONDURAS

by Amber Himes, (Professional Writing, Spanish minor); Kristen Scopino (Communication Studies), Amy Summer (Political Science, Spanish)

After a 45-minute bus ride, the first thing we did upon arriving in the small village of Delicias del Sur, Honduras, was look up. The road that led to the center of the village seemed to be vertical, stretching and blending into the mountain behind it. Small homes that looked more like shacks were scattered within the thick foliage, but as we trudged our way up the mountain, it wasn't the condition of the homes, or even the picturesque view of the Honduran countryside that we noticed first. We saw a rocky plot of dirt, and we knew that small section of land was why we made our 2,000-mile journey to Honduras. We were there for Students Helping Honduras, an organization fighting for education, and we were there to turn that desolate plot of land into a school.

During our two weeks in Honduras, we were inspired to seize every opportunity, even if we felt shy or intimidated. We shamelessly tried out our salsa dancing skills, broadened our Spanish vocabulary with construction terms and Honduran slang, and even plucked the feathers out of a chicken! We were also able to bond with many of the women in the village over our love of food by asking them how they prepared different dishes and what their favorite recipes were. They were always eager to share, and they even gave us their phone numbers in case we needed help replicating their recipes for *baleadas* or *pastelitos* *hondureños* back home.

All the while, block by block, we turned a rocky, useless plot of land into a brighter future for all of the people in the village from the youngest child to senior citizens. Most of the time that we were down there, we were sweating...a lot. One day, however, it rained so hard that our shoes squished with each step, and instead of sweating, we were shivering. One of the teenagers that lived in the village saw how cold one of us was and even though he lived in a shack and had only a few possessions, he offered her his only jacket, not taking "no" for an answer. That was the moment that we knew why we were down there. The people of Delicias taught us the value of reaching out to help someone. During our two weeks in Honduras, we saw an insignificant plot of land turn into something that will someday change the future of that village: a school rose out of the barren ground and we are forever affected by that sight. We know that there is still more to do, so we plan on raising money for new schools. We set our goals high and returned to Kutztown University ready to reach for them.

Please see additional
photos on page 6

ceciskids.org



PENNSYLVANIA OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT



A Global, Strategic Approach
to Creating and Keeping Jobs
in Pennsylvania



“Pennsylvania’s economy is the 20th largest in the world with \$600.89 Billion in GDP.”

This astounding statistic is what most impressed students who attended a talk on February 22, 2014, given by Wilfred Muskens, Deputy Secretary, Office of International Business Development, Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development.

Muskens visited Kutztown University to share information about Pennsylvania’s international economic profile as well as what his office in Harrisburg accomplishes on a regular basis.

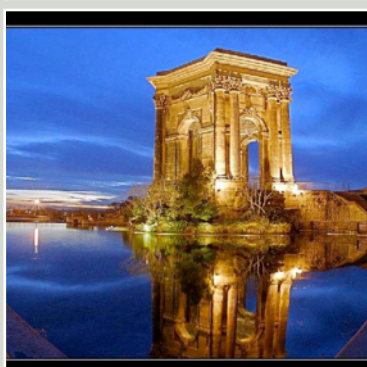
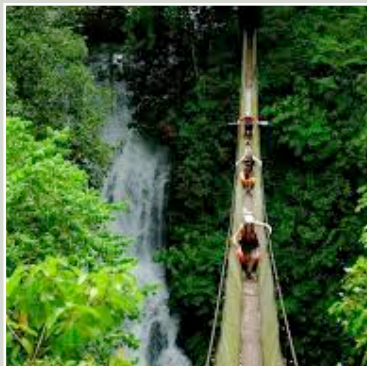
Among the many services that Muskens’ office offers are: free, confidential, personalized service for PA businesses interested in exporting their goods or services; international market intelligence; export counseling; international events assistance; and on-the-ground, in-country support.

www.newpa.com



10	221	#1	28,205
PA ranks 10th among US states in the value of exported goods and services.	Customers in 221 countries buy PA-grown and PA-made goods and services.	PA ranks 1st in transportation equipment (\$587 million); and 1st in confections (\$566 million).	Trade impact (2008-2013); 28,205 jobs created as result of PA Center for Trade Development initiatives

MLS STUDY ABROAD PROGRAMS



KU Establishes New Exchange Program

by: Esther Shanahan, KU Office of University Relations

Kutztown University's Modern Language Studies Department has established a language-intensive exchange program with the University of Hildesheim in northern Germany for students enrolled in the German studies major or secondary education/German. KU will also host students from Hildesheim.

While students would mostly take German language classes, they can also enroll in general education courses or in other major or minor subject areas. All courses are taught in German. Students may study for one semester or a full year; eight students are planning to study at Hildesheim next year.

Hildesheim program director Dr. Stefanie Hundt and KU program director Dr. Lynn M. Kutch collaborated to develop the exchange program, and Nicole Becker, KU's assistant director of international admissions, facilitated the process.

Both KU and the University of Hildesheim have strong education departments, and

Hildesheim offers courses similar to those found at KU.

KU student Laura Berkel (BA German, BA Philosophy) has participated in KU's Austria/Southern German summer program, and plans to study at Hildesheim this fall: "My experience in Europe, particularly Germany, has been wonderful!" she said. "The best part about traveling is being able to experience new cultures. I chose to study at Hildesheim because of their education program, and for the travel experience. I enjoy immersing myself in the German language, since I'm hoping to utilize it in my future career. Both the school and its demographics are perfect for my language ability level, and I'm hopeful that this opportunity will help me further develop my language skills."

The new exchange program will facilitate course transfers, and students can pay tuition and fees directly to KU. Room and meal costs are paid to the host institution.

**Semester
or Year-Long
Study**



Modern Language Studies Department established Study Abroad programs [at left from top to bottom: Spain, Costa Rica, Ecuador, France, and Austria/Southern Germany].

BRAVO!



Flamenco Passion

"Described as 'magnificent,' 'beautiful,' and 'scorching,' Ensemble Español Spanish Dance Theatre, the premiere Spanish dance company in the United States, fully embraces the passions of Spain."

-http://

www.kutztownpresents.org/calendar/ensembleespanol

A Night of Passion for Careers and Dance!

Academics, career networking, and passionate dance all came together on Saturday, February 1, 2014 in a wonderful "Work Net" event, organized by Robin Zaremski, Director of KU Presents! and Dr. Karen Rauch, Chair, Department of Modern Language Studies.

Spanish majors, many of whom are also members of Sigma Delta Pi National Collegiate Hispanic Honor Society and the KU Organization for Latino Awareness, and MLS Department faculty (Dr. Núñez, Dr. Slack, and Dr. Zimmerman) joined Director Zaremski and Dr. Rauch in welcoming seven Latino community leaders and business owners from Berks and Lehigh counties to the KU campus for an opportunity to network and share their passion for learning, languages, and the arts. Joining us were: Juan Camacho, Esq. (Fries Law Firm-Allentown), Álvaro A. Díaz (Director, Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of the Lehigh Valley), Fidel Gonzalez (President, Polaris Engineering-Bethlehem), Carolina Martinez (Director, Latino Business Resource Center), Marilu Rodriguez, Esq. (Chairwoman, Berks County Latino Chamber of Commerce), Daniel Sansary (KU graduate and Board member of BCLCC), and

Juan Carlos Vidal (President, Office Systems-Allentown).

During a special reception, these prominent Latino professionals regaled "Work Net" attendees with their personal experiences and offered career advice. All of their stories were unique and inspiring; but there were also some common themes: the importance of capitalizing on bilingual and bicultural skills as well as the importance of perseverance, taking (and making) opportunities, being life-long learners, and giving back to the community. Their inspirational speeches were followed by the opportunity for the leaders, students, and faculty to socialize and network. Jeneé Alicia Chizick, founder, publisher, and editor of *Motivos* magazine (Philadelphia) was also on hand with some of her student interns to cover the event and share her perspectives.

The evening was then rounded out by attending the performance of *Flamenco Passion*, which was a high-energy, evocative, and emotional display of dance performed by the Ensemble Español Spanish Dance Theatre, the premier Spanish dance company in the United States. The near-capacity crowd in Schaeffer Auditorium was certainly enraptured by the dance troupe's elegance, intensity, and beauty, as evidenced by evocative shouts of "Olé" and "Bravo" from the audience!

From left to right: Yesenia Fernández, Pérez (BSBA Business Administration/Management, Spanish Minor); Carlos Ramón (Business, Spanish minor); Holly Bream (Business, Spanish minor)



Photo credit: Susan Angstadt

PRACTICAL EXPERIENCES FOR GERMAN STUDIES

The previous edition of *Language Links* featured an initiative between KU German Studies and KU Office of Career Services to offer more hands-on experiences for German students to practice intercultural and language skills with authentic real-world opportunities.

One of the opportunities involved translating technical documents from German into English. The translations are meant to give students an idea of what it would be like working in the translation industry. KU has developed a partnership with Alcon in Sinking Spring, a Swiss company that specializes in advanced surgical, pharmaceutical and vision care products. (Please visit www.alcon.com).

German minor and native German speaker Christopher McDonald recently completed one of the documents on electropolishing. Here are some impressions of the experience:

***What was your personal motivation for taking on this project?**

"My personal motivation was due to the fact that I am a native speaker and felt that there is always the need for translation.

I have read many documents or web comics and mangas that had been translated and I every so often felt that there could have been a better translation for it."

*** Describe your expectations for how the project will develop.**

"I expect that I will be learning a few new words from the industry that I will be translating in.

Once I have those words in my vocabulary, the translating should be done with a breeze."

***How did the actual experience compare with what you predicted at the beginning?**

"I did, as I had expected, learn a few words that I had not known yet.

Some of the wording and phrasing gave me issues but nothing to really stress out on.

Once I stepped away from it and took a few minutes to gather myself, I was usually able to keep going.

Sometimes I had to look up other words and compare how things would sound better."

***What was the hardest part about the project? What was the easiest?**

"The hardest part for me was finding the right wording sometimes.

It is not possible to just translate word by word and form the sentence out of that. The rest was mostly the easy part. If there wasn't any weird wording or phrasing, it was easy to translate things."



* How has the experience influenced your plans to work as a translator in the future?

"I know that I don't want to translate technical documents.

These are rather tedious and sometimes hard to translate, as mentioned earlier.

I would however be more interested in translating scripts of games, comics/mangas or animation/movies.

Those, I would guess, might not be as difficult to translate."

"It is not possible to just translate word for word."

image above from www.legaltranslationsolutions.com

Featured Recipe

"Baleadas hondureñas"

Ingredients

- Flour tortillas
- Refried beans: 2 cups
- Crumbled queso duro, cotija or feta cheese – 1/2 cup
- Mexican-style sour cream (cream agria): 1/4 cup

Method

Heat an ungreased griddle, comal or skillet over medium flame. Meanwhile, heat up the refried beans in a saucepan, stirring in a little water.

Place a tortilla into the skillet and heat it on both sides to soften it up. Place the tortilla on a

serving plate. Smear some refried beans on one half of the tortilla, sprinkle it with some crumbled cheese and drizzle it with a little sour cream. Fold the tortilla in half over the filling.

Repeat with the remaining tortillas and serve hot.



KU Students Helping Honduras

Students help prepare lunch:
 "Baleadas hondureñas"
 (please see recipe on page 5)

at right: Amy Summer (please
 see cover story)



WORLD LANGUAGES MEET 2014

WORLD LANGUAGES MEET

Survival of the Linguists



2014

For Spanish, German and French!

Team up your star students and register them for this unique day of world language challenges, competitions and mentorship. More information is available online
<http://www.kutztown.edu/languageresourcecenter>
<https://www.facebook.com/KUWLM>



Join Kutztown University's Modern Language Studies
Department & Language Resource Center
Thursday, March 27, 2014 - 8:15 am - 3:00 pm

\$20 registration fee and form due (postmarked) December 15

THE MLS DEPARTMENT
WILL WELCOME
APPROX. 200 HIGH
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FRENCH, GERMAN AND
SPANISH FROM THESE
AREA HIGH SCHOOLS:

*Fleetwood
*Kutztown
*Nazareth
*Parkland
*Phoenixville

LANGUAGE LINKS

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