

LANGUAGE LINKS

Spring 2015



Photo, from left:
Tricia Johnson,
Andrew Velik,
Athena Heck

MLS Spring 2015 Grad Awards

On April 28, 2015, the Modern Language Studies Department honored three of its top students.



Tricia Johnson (BSEd, German) received the Linda Oswald Bogert award, which recognizes outstanding achievement in language learning, as well as overall academic achievement.



Andrew Velik (BS, Business Administration/Management, BA German, French minor) received the German Award.



Athena Heck (BSEd, Spanish) received the Spanish Award.



Modern Language Studies Hosts Teachers' Conference

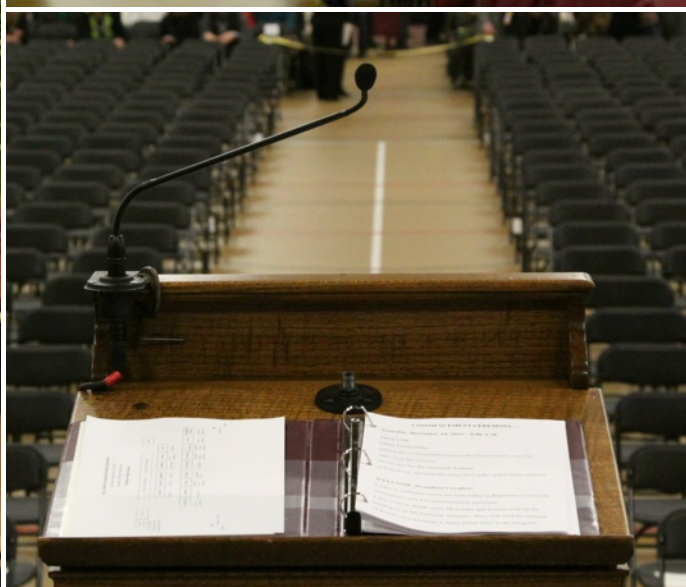


From left: Dr. Nancy Zimmerman of the Dept. of Modern Language Studies, Ken Stewart, and Jan Stewart, president of the Pennsylvania State Modern Language Association (PSMLA)

The Modern Language Studies Department hosted over 50 modern language educators on Saturday, April 11 for a workshop entitled "Building Proficiency via the Three Modes of Communication." The keynote speaker was Ken Stewart, the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages Teacher of the Year 2006. Pictured with Mr. Stewart are Dr. Nancy Zimmerman of the Dept. of Modern Language Studies (l.) and Jan Stewart, the president of the Pennsylvania State Modern Language Association.

Observations from the Teachers' Conference by Matt Bello, (BSEd Spanish and Social Studies)

Ken Stewart was able to present ways to teach with the modes of communication in mind without overusing them in a manner that becomes annoying for students or difficult for teachers. Most of what he talked about we have discussed in our methods classes, but he was able to give us more ways and examples to use the information. Leaving the session, I could think of countless ways to incorporate different communication activities for all levels using the same materials. I think that as a newcomer in teaching I was able to take away the same, if not more, than some of the veteran teachers in attendance. Just hearing some of the positive reactions of the people in attendance was enough to make me know that not only is Ken Stewart a master teacher and deserving of his award as a "Teacher of the Year," but that the information and methods he presented are invaluable to our ability to be good teachers.



Dr. Rauch Selected as KU Spring Commencement Speaker

On Saturday, May 9, 2015, 2pm, Kutztown University celebrated one of its largest spring commencement ceremonies for the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS) and the College of Visual and Performing Arts, with over 700 students graduating from just the CLAS alone! And, Dr. Karen Rauch, associate professor of Spanish in the Modern Language Studies Department, was the Faculty Commencement Speaker! Selected by a student-run committee, Dr. Rauch commented that, although nerve-racking at first, it was an honor to have been asked. During her speech, she wove together humorous and heart-felt anecdotes from her personal and professional experiences to

highlight the importance of not judging others, of taking responsibility for one's actions, and of learning from all of life's opportunities. She concluded with a rousing and funny tribute to being a nerd, proudly proclaiming herself to be one and encouraging other nerds to unite, which drew laughs and applause from the audience! There were some MLS department students in the graduating class, and after the commencement proceedings, they sought her out to share with her that her being commencement speaker made the ceremony even more poignant for them. Congratulations, Dr. Rauch, for representing our department so well and for making our students so proud!

Introducing the

KUTZTOWN UNIVERSITY SPANISH FOR MODERN BUSINESS MINOR

Beginning Fall Semester 2015

Core Courses

Intermediate
Spanish for
Business I and II

Writing in
Spanish for the
Professional
World

Advanced
Business
Practices and
Cultures I and II

An opportunity to blend business, language and culture!

Cultivate the language skills necessary to communicate in business and professional settings in our ever increasing global environment.

- Learn practical skills for the workplace:
 - business culture and etiquette
 - business ethics and writing
 - translation
- A cohesive curriculum:
 - 21 credits / 15 required, six elective
- Each course can also be taken as a stand-alone class
- Designed for students at all levels – from beginners to native speakers
- Complements existing KU majors
- Unique to KU and the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education
- Relevant for today's demographic trends, economic realities, and best practices for business
- Exciting Internship opportunities such as:
 - The Washington Center
 - Legal or government agencies
 - Latino Business Resource Center

Electives

Introduction to
Spanish/English
Translation

Spanish and
Entrepreneurship

International
Internship in
Spanish

The
Entrepreneurial
Language
Professional



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Department of Modern Language Studies | email: Rauch@kutztown.edu or phone 610-683-4431
www.kutztown.edu/Spanish

Department Announces New Minor for Fall 2015

Did you know that the Hispanic market in the United States represents over one trillion dollars in estimated spending power per year? Or that it is poised to become the eleventh largest market in the world? With important economic factors like these in mind, the MLS department has created a minor in Spanish for Modern Business, a program that complements any major at KU. Drs. Carolina Moctezuma, Dawn Slack and Karen Rauch created five new courses, all of which focus solely on business and economics for the new curriculum. The minor consists of 21 credits, five required courses in the core and two electives.

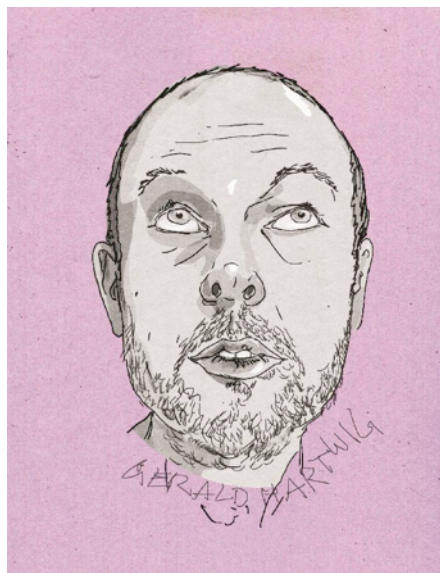
The first course, Spanish 105, Intermediate Spanish for Business I, will be offered in the Fall 2015 semester. This

class is for students who have successfully completed Spanish 012, or who have placed at the intermediate level via the department's online placement exam. This course takes the place of Spanish 103 and is open to all students, not just those in the minor program.

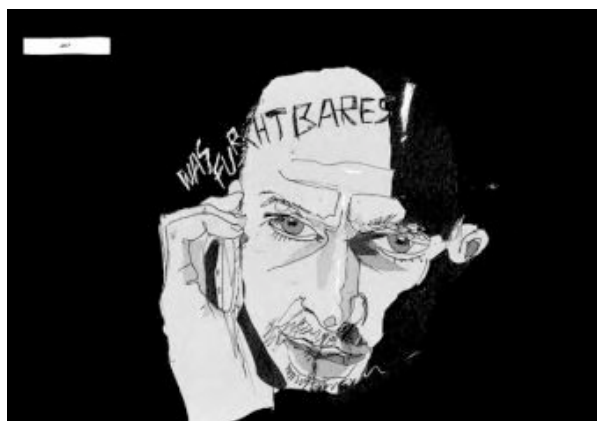
In Spring 2016, Spanish 106, Intermediate Spanish for Business II will be offered along with Spanish 207, Writing in Spanish for the Professional World. The department plans to add a writing-intensive competency to the latter course by the first time it is offered. For more information on the minor, please contact the program's coordinator, Dr. Karen Rauch at rauch@kutztown.edu.

"Being able to translate something so abstract allowed me to rekindle my love for translation. The subjective nature allows for so much creativity. Although it was challenging at times, it was so rewarding to be able to use my skills for real-world application."

-Cheyenne Bowman,
BS, Psychology, German
minor



German Students Take On "Real- World" Translation Project



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"It was extremely educational and rewarding to work through these texts. As students, we don't have as much exposure to literary and idiomatic German, and working with texts written for a real audience is invaluable."

I'm grateful for the opportunity to work with genuine texts and I've learned a lot in doing so."

-Josh Steinberg, BA,
Philosophy, German
minor



This semester, German minors Cheyenne Bowman and Josh Steinberg agreed to try their hands at some "real-world" translation work: and this in addition to their normal workloads. Dr. Lynn M. Kutch, associate professor of German, had been working with Austrian graphic novelist Gerald Hartwig on translating

his "press kit," which consists of reviews of his graphic novel *Chamäleon*, interviews and other German-language press. Kutch had taught a translation course in fall 2014, and thought some of the students who had taken that course might want to continue translating, this time for a real audience.

Bowman and Steinberg jumped at the chance, split up the material, and got to work. They have since both completed drafts, on which Dr. Kutch and Mr. Hartwig will perform final edits.

One of the aims is for the press kit to be used in communications with English-language publishers.



(starting at the far left, moving clockwise): SDP Co-Advisor Prof. Nadia Thalassinou, Dr. Angelo Rodríguez, Assistant Professor of Spanish, Dr. Karen Rauch, Associate Professor of Spanish, and OLA President & SDP Vice-President Mr. Jordan Thomas (BSEd Spanish), SDP Spring 2015 President, Ms. Catherine Espinal (BSEd Spanish).



Crossing the Border: A Panel Discussion on Politics, Food and Culture

By Catherine Espinal

Hosted by the KU Organization for Latino Awareness, the National Collegiate Hispanic Honor Society Sigma Delta Pi and the Modern Language Studies Department, the event *Crossing the Border: A Panel Discussion on Politics, Food and Culture*, took place in the Viewpoints room of South Dining Hall on April 18th, 2015. Photographed are the respective panelists: Mr. Jesús Peña (Associate Vice-President for Equity and Compliance) representing Cuba, Mr. Jorge González-Perdomo (BA Spanish) representing the Dominican Republic, Mr. Edwin Lugo (BA Spanish) representing Puerto Rico, Ms. Lourdes Castillo (BA Spanish) representing Peru, Mr. Miguel Nieves-Díaz (Library Technician) representing Puerto Rico, Ms. Maria Lension (Reading-Berks Literacy Council) representing the Dominican Republic and Ms. Patricia Pérez (Reading-Berks Literacy Council) representing Mexico.

In addition to KU students and faculty, students from the Roberto Clemente Charter School of Allentown and Phoenixville Area High School attended the event, exploring the topic of immigration and personal, first-hand experiences that have impacted our panelists throughout their journeys. Aware of stereotypes, discrimination and false myths that life would be easy in the United States, all knew that language barriers, cultural differences and job competition would be tough. None dismissed the idea of systematic oppression, and some shared their own experiences with blatant discrimination and prejudice against them. Nevertheless, all rose up to the challenge, knowing that hard work would eventually pay off and ultimately led to the success they have now. Using a mix of Spanish and English, it was a powerful event that inspired all who were involved and showcased the perseverance, dedication and strong spirit of the modern day immigrant.

Events like these would not be possible without the hard work of the the Organization for Latino Awareness, the Hispanic Honor Society and the Modern Language Studies Department.

Creativity Conference, Albright College



On Saturday, April 18th, 3 BEd Spanish students presented their original research projects at the 16th Annual Undergraduate Research and Creativity Conference hosted by Albright College. Under the sponsorship of Dr. Christine Coleman Núñez, Jordan Thomas presented “Methodology of Bilingual Education,” and Irving Guzmán and Matthew Bello co-

presented “Creating Bilingual Books for the ESL Classroom.” Both presentations illustrated the effectiveness of using learners’ first language to increase second language acquisition. These students’ achievements carrying out their research exemplify their dedication to the field of language teaching. ¡Muy bien hecho!

Where are they now?

Jeremy Hesketh, BA Spanish, 2012

I attended Kutztown University from 2008 until 2012 and have since taken up a career in the United States Army. I got into my current field as it was only one of a handful of fields that uses languages on a daily basis and is a requirement for career advancement. Although I have not had too many opportunities to use Spanish or German while in Hawaii, I have been able to learn some basics in a few other languages such as Chinese, Japanese, Korean, or Tagalog. In the future, I hope to end up working in a United States Embassy across the globe. I know my language skills and cultural awareness that I developed at Kutztown University will only help to put me ahead of the curve and help me get the assignments that I want.

Aside from spending weekends on the beach or climbing through the dense Hawaiian jungle, one fundamental undertone has remained consistent, my love of learning new languages. Out here in Hawaii, there is the Hawaiian culture and language that is amazing to learn about. As well, I have had the opportunity to work in South Korea and I was able to use language skills to quickly pick up Korean and use it to foster friendships, both personally and professionally. One of the biggest lessons I have learned is that attempting to speak another language with a native speaker is one of the easiest ways to start a new friendship. One of my favorite memories while at Kutztown University is working with the After School Spanish Program with the Organization for Latino Awareness. Having a group of devoted children with a desire to learn Spanish was not only a motivation then, but still remains to this day.



above: Hesketh with wife Celeste (Galvin), BEd Music, 2013.



Sigma Delta Pi, National Collegiate Hispanic Honor Society

Fifteen Spanish majors and minors earned the distinctive honor of being initiated into the Kutztown University chapter of Sigma Delta Pi, National Collegiate Hispanic Honor Society, on

April 13, 2015. Seated left to right are (front row) Samantha González, Adelen Geiger, Justine Ebbert, Karissa Deitrich, Yorman De La Rosa, Lourdes Castillo and Holly Bream, (back row) Rachel

Sladovnik, Stefania Rodríguez, Pedro Pérez, Waskar Paulino, Derek Nestler, Denise Navarro, Christopher Kalbfell and Irving Guzmán.

KU Students in the Community

This past winter, Molly Buckwalter (BA German) worked with Dr. Russell Eaton at the Landis Valley Museum. She helped to transcribe, translate, and record PA German birth and baptismal certificates.



KU Graduate Making a Difference in Honduras

J. Vanessa Cortes, BA Spanish, Social Work minor and fall 2014 commencement speaker, is living in Honduras and working as an English teacher. Before she left, OLA and Sigma Delta Pi did a toy, school supplies and toiletry drive to collect gifts for the children in Honduras. KU students, staff and faculty donated items, which OLA, Sigma Delta Pi and Vanessa then wrapped as presents and took to the children for a Christmas celebration. For many children in this community, receiving presents at Christmas time was a very rare treat. The photos are of Vanessa distributing gifts, and of some of the happy faces of children opening them and discovering the contents.



MODERN LANGUAGE STUDIES DEPARTMENT AT KUTZTOWN UNIVERSITY

Dr. Christine Coleman Núñez, Department Chair (nunez@kutztown.edu)
Ms. Merlene Oswald, Department Secretary (moswald@kutztown.edu)

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