



# Newsletter of the Department of Modern Languages at The University of the Incarnate Word



[www.uiw.edu/flanguage](http://www.uiw.edu/flanguage)

Volume 7, Issue 1 – Summer 2009

## **WE HAVE A NEW NAME!!!**

After many years of extending our offerings to include eight languages in addition to Spanish, and of having our students participate in study abroad programs in various countries and languages, the faculty of the Department of Foreign Languages realized that we were teaching our students to have a more multicultural view of the world. We were also aware that for many of our Hispanic heritage students, Spanish was a second, if not a first, language – alive and well in borderland South Texas. In order to reflect these realities and to avoid the us-them implications of the term “foreign,” we chose the more inclusive “Modern Languages” as a new name for the department. The change became official in April of 2009.

## **UPCOMING LANGUAGE COURSES**

### Summer Session I (May 18 – June 25)

SPAN 1311-01	Elementary Spanish I	MTWR 10:30–12:00 PM
SPAN 1312-01	Elementary Spanish II	MTWR 10:30–12:00 PM

(May 18 – June 18)

SPAN 4320-01	Elementary Spanish I for Pharmacists	MTWR 8:30–10:30 AM
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### Summer Session II (June 29 – August 6)

SPAN 1311-01	Elementary Spanish I	MTWR 8:30–10:00 AM
SPAN 1312-01	Elementary Spanish II	MTWR 10:30–12:00 PM

(June 22 – July 23)

SPAN 4321-01	Elementary Spanish II for Pharmacists	MTWR 8:30–10:30 AM
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### Fall 2009

ARAB 1311	Elementary Arabic I	MW 9:00–10:15 AM
CHIN 1311	Elementary Chinese I	TR 6:00–7:15 PM
FREN 1311	Elementary French I	TR 3:00–4:15 PM
GERM 1311	Elementary German I	TR 6:00–7:15 PM
HEBR 1311	Elementary Hebrew I	MW 4:30–5:45 PM
IT 1311	Elementary Italian I	TR 10:30–11:45 AM
JAPN 1311	Elementary Japanese I	TR 4:30–5:45 PM
PORT 1311	Elementary Portuguese I	TR 6:00–7:15 PM

SPAN 1311	Elementary Spanish I (12 sections)	
SPAN 1312	Elementary Spanish II (10 sections)	
SPAN 2311	Intermediate Spanish I: Oral Communication – Dr. Sally Said	TR 9:00–10:15 AM
SPAN 3301	Adv Spanish Grammar/Composition – Dr. Amalia Mondríguez	F 9:00–12:00 PM
SPAN 3311	Culture & Civilization of Spain – Dr. Amalia Mondríguez	TR 12:00–1:15 PM
SPAN 3342	Span-Amer Lit since Modernism – Dr. Amalia Mondríguez	TR 1:30–2:45 PM

## **PREVIOUS EVENTS**

### Faculty Brunch

On Saturday, September 13, 2008, the Department held a brunch and update session at La Madeleine from 9:00-11:00 AM. It was nice to see everyone and catch up on summer activities.

### Speakers

The Modern Languages Program cooperated to sponsor the visit to campus for Native American Heritage Month of Beverly Allen, a Navajo weaver, from November 10-16, 2008.

On April 16, 2009, Dr. Carmen Tafolla, winner of the 2009 Tomás Rivera Literature Award, spoke at the UIW Library. The talk was sponsored by the Children’s Literature in Spanish course.

On May 1, 2009, Mr. Vincent Rodríguez, Assistant to Dr. Agnese, presented “El presente y el futuro del periodismo” in the Library Auditorium. The talk was sponsored by the Spanish in the Media course.

### Other Events

On April 17, 2009, Estudio Cuatro presented a concert of Spanish and Spanish American music in the Library Auditorium.

On April 24, 2009, the students of the Children’s Literature in Spanish class presented a puppet show, *El León Comelón*, at St. Mathew’s Catholic School.

The Puerto Rican Heritage Association awarded scholarships to Puerto Rican and non-Puerto Rican high school students who will be attending college. Dr. Amalia Mondríguez is a member of the scholarship committee. The scholarships were awarded in a ceremony on May 2, 2009, at the UIW Library.

## **STUDENT NEWS**

Students in Spanish 2311, Oral Communication, participated in the construction of an altar for Day of the Dead on October 30 outside Our Lady’s Chapel and collaborated with Campus Ministry in an observance, by serving *pan de muerto* after mass on Sunday, November 2.

In Spanish 2312, Written Communication (Spring 2009), students authored, edited, and compiled a series of essays to produce an anthology titled *FloreCIMIENTO*.

Spanish and psychology grad **Yesenia Moreno** ('99 BA) is featured in the Spring 2009 edition of the UIW alumni publication *The Word*. Her work with Child Protective Services involves facilitating adoptions and working as a foster care caseworker. Bilingual, and one of only two in her unit completely comfortable in Spanish, Yesenia is assigned many of the Spanish-speaking clients, the article points out. To read more, go to [www.uiw.edu/thewordonline/spring2009/](http://www.uiw.edu/thewordonline/spring2009/).

**Roxanna Montes Bazaldúa** ('98 BA Spanish, '01 M.Ed.) is celebrating the publishing of *The Legend of the Cascaron / La leyenda del cascarón*, a bilingual book for children which started as a class assignment in Dr. Amalia Mondríguez's class at UIW. It was published by Raining Popcorn Press, ISBN 0979730449. Roxanna now teaches in the Alamo Heights School District. [From *The Word* (Spring 2009, p. 29)]

Students in the Spanish in the Media class toured the facilities of La Prensa, Bromley Communications, Univisión, and Estéreo Latino. They were able to talk to the employees and discuss the possibilities of internships. At Univisión they conversed with Henry Cisneros and Lionel Sosa. The Spanish in the Media students prepared pamphlets, videos and radio spots with health, social, and economic topics to help agencies and the community.

On Thursday, April 23, 2009, at the Humanities Honors Convocation, the following students were recognized for their excellent achievements in Spanish:

- Outstanding Spanish Major in memory of Carolina Ballester – **María de Jesús Robledo**
- Outstanding Student in Intermediate Spanish in memory of Joshua K. Stokes – **Sarah Hudson**
- Outstanding Student in the Spanish Minor – **Garlene J. Guadrón**
- Outstanding Use of Spanish in Service to the Community – **Nilsa E. Valle Padilla**

In addition, **María de Jesús Robledo** was awarded the Amy Freeman Lee Scholastic Achievement and Service Recognition Award from the College of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences.

Congratulations to you all!!!

And congratulations to the following Spanish majors who graduated in May 2009: **Melba Aguilar-Zúñiga** (Spanish and Religious Studies), **José Sebastián González González**, **Laura Camila León Gutiérrez**, **Teresa de Jesús Olivares**, **Matthew Anderson Pargeter**, **María de Jesús Robledo**, and **Nilsa E. Valle-Padilla**.

If you are a former student, please let us know about your latest news. We would love to announce it in our next newsletter.

## **FACULTY ACTIVITIES**

**Dr. Amalia Mondríguez** is back from her sabbatical. During that time she completed the second part of the Spanish for Pharmacists book. Some of her poems were included in *Quirk*, a UIW publication. She will attend the Conference of the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators in August. This year she won a SCBWI free tuition for the 2009 conference. Dr. Mondríguez is an assistant to Heather Power, president of the San Antonio chapter.

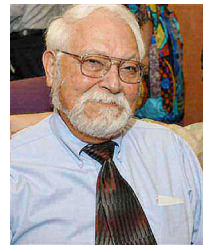
**Dr. Sally Said** had a chapter published in a book: "From Oral Tradition to Legal Documents: Words to Protect the Headwaters of the San Antonio River." *Sustainability: Rhetorics, Literacies and Narratives*. Ed. Peter Goggin. London: Routledge/Taylor & Francis, 2009. In summer 2008, Dr. Said spent six weeks at Diné College in Tsaile Arizona, studying the Navajo language and assisting with a Navajo Linguistics course. She also presented a paper, "Between Worlds: Navajo Culture as a Bridge from Orality to Literacy,"

at the Western States Rhetoric and Literacy Conference on Cultural Rhetorics, Montana State University, Bozeman, October 24, 2008. In Spring 2009, Dr. Said was promoted to full professor.

**Dr. Michael Tallon** attended the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) 2008 Conference in Orlando, Florida, where he presented “Foreign Language Anxiety and Heritage Students of Spanish: A Qualitative Study.” At the conference he was elected the Treasurer for the Spanish for Native Speakers (SNS) Special Interest Group (SIG). His paper “A Culture of Caring: Reducing Anxiety and Increasing Engagement in First-Year Foreign Language Courses” was published in the conference proceedings from the UIW/NVC Title V Symposium – Collaborating for Student Success: Building Engagement in Learning. His paper “Foreign Language Anxiety and Heritage Students of Spanish: A Quantitative Study” was recently published in the Spring 2009 issue of *Foreign Language Annals*, the official journal of the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages. He continues to serve as the Editor in Chief, as well as on the Editorial and Review Committee, of *Texas Papers in Foreign Language Education*. His biography was published in *Who’s Who in America, 2009*.

### **IN MEMORIAM – DR. MARIO SANTIZO**

It is with great sadness that we announce that Dr. Mario Santizo, adjunct instructor of Spanish, passed away on Monday, December 1, 2008. Dr. Santizo was born on November 9, 1938, in Pochuta, Guatemala. After receiving his Ph.D. in Spanish Literature at St. Louis University, he taught Spanish at the University of Iowa for 29 years. In 1999, he and his wife Minita moved to San Antonio and Dr. Santizo began teaching Spanish at UIW. Dr. Santizo was very popular with the students and he will be greatly missed.



### **UIW MODERN LANGUAGES DEPARTMENT WEB SITE**

Be sure to check out our web site ([www.uiw.edu/flanguage](http://www.uiw.edu/flanguage)) for information about our Spanish program and our faculty, previous newsletters, and other information!

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If you have any comments about this newsletter or would like to include information in the next newsletter, please contact Michael Tallon at [tallon@uiwtx.edu](mailto:tallon@uiwtx.edu) or 210-805-5891.

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*“If you talk to a man in a language he understands, that goes to his head. If you talk to him in his own language, that goes to his heart.”*

Nelson Mandela

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