

# The Polyglot Spring 2012

IUP Department of Foreign Languages

## First Merged Departmental Graduation Reception to be Held Friday, May 11, 2012

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The first reception for graduates of the recently-merged IUP Department of Foreign Languages will be held Friday, May 11, 2012. The reception will begin at 4 pm, and will take place in the IUP Department of Foreign Languages hallway (fourth

floor of Sutton Hall). The reception will recognize departmental Spanish and French majors who graduated in December 2011, as well as those planning to graduate in May 2012 and August 2012. Graduates and their friends and families are welcome to join department-

tal faculty at the reception. Watch your email for more information regarding this reception. If you plan to attend, please RSVP by emailing Linda Dickie at [dickie@iup.edu](mailto:dickie@iup.edu) or by calling the departmental office at (724) 357-2325 by May 7th.

## IUP Chinese Language Student Wins Third Prize at National Contest, Interviewed by *Voice of America*

Jazminn Jones, a student in a Chinese 202 class at IUP, won third place in the Junior Level Group at the third annual Eastern U.S. Chinese Proficiency Competition, held April 7, 2012 at Pace University in New York. After the competition, Jones was interviewed by *Voice of America* (VOA). Eighty students from twenty-three universities in the Eastern U.S. region participated. This was the first time IUP students attended this annual contest. The finalists were chosen from preliminary contests held at various places in the Eastern U.S. Three students, including Jones from IUP, attended the preliminary contest at Saint Vincent College on March 24. See page five of this newsletter for more information on the preliminary regional contest. Congratulations Jazminn!



Jazminn Jones, front row, second from right

## Search Underway for Tenure-Track Professor of Japanese Language

The Department of Foreign Languages is currently conducting an international search for a professor of Japanese language. The successful candidate will teach classes in

Japanese language and culture beginning Fall 2012. Japanese language has been taught as part of the Critical Languages Program. The new professor will be part of the Foreign Language

Department faculty and will also participate in the Asian Studies Program. Information about the search can be found on the department website.

Visit us at [www.iup.edu/foreignlanguages](http://www.iup.edu/foreignlanguages)

## Greetings from Valladolid, Spain: Student Impressions from Spain, Spring 2012

**By Jovana Ramos**

After two and a half years at IUP it was difficult to imagine spending a semester elsewhere. I was very much in my comfort zone. I had my friends, the places where I liked to go, and a campus that I know so well that I can even draw a map of it from memory. To leave that behind to spend a semester in another country where I had no idea what to expect was nerve-racking, but I decided to do it anyway. That decision is one of the best decisions that I could have made.

I never would have imagined that one day I would be sitting in a café in Spain as part of my usual routine. That one day I could have a “usual” meeting spot to go to the “usual” place to get coffee after only a couple of months. I can’t believe how comfortable it feels now.

**“It is such a different experience when everything you learn in the classroom can be applied on a day-to-day basis.”**

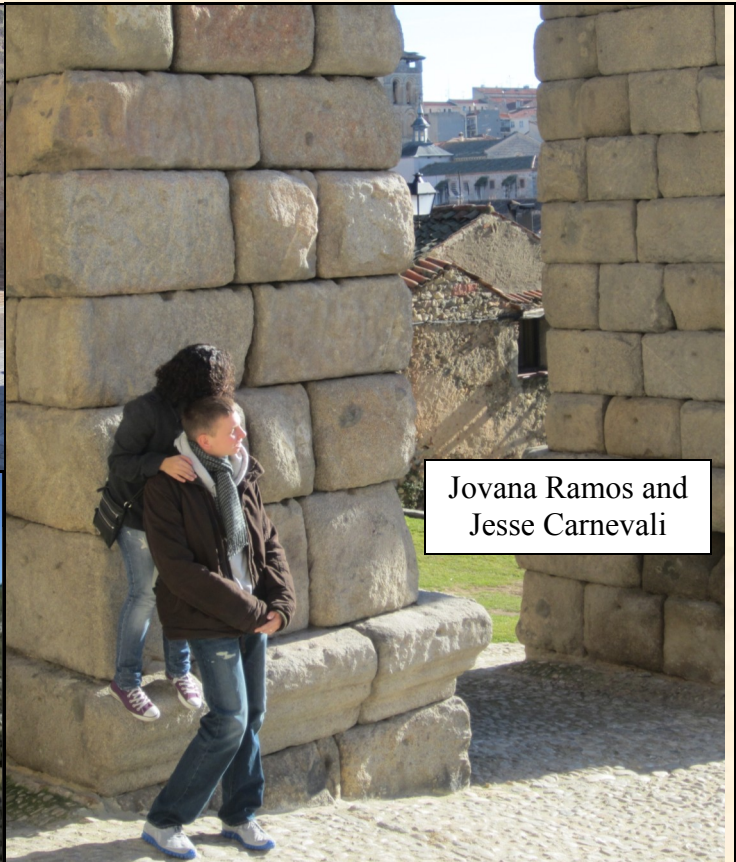
It is such a different experience when everything you learn in the classroom can be applied on a day to day basis. I think it’s more interesting to be able to walk to a beautiful 15<sup>th</sup> century church and look for yourself at what your art professor was explaining to you in class that day or being able to use what you learned in grammar when talking to your host mom at dinner. Speaking in Spanish becomes your lifestyle because you have no other choice. Instead of only hearing it in class you hear it everywhere you go, you read it on the street signs, and only study for your classes in Spanish.

Living in a different country and being immersed

in the culture is definitely helping me see things from a different perspective and even appreciate some things that I take for granted. In many of my classes the theme *Carpe diem* has come up quite a few times and that’s one lesson that I’ve truly been able to apply here and that I hope to keep in my heart for as long as I live. I’m in Europe, studying and traveling. I’m getting to do things that people always say that want to do and might never get the chance. I was lucky enough to get the chance and I am very glad that I took it.



Kelly Krakosky, Jovana Ramos, and Eve Pellitteri



Jovana Ramos and Jesse Carnevali





**By Jessica Monk**

Studying abroad in Spain has been one of the best experiences of my life. Living within another culture, constantly speaking a foreign language, and meeting new people from all over the world have changed the way I see so many aspects of my life. Being immersed in the Spanish culture and language and taking classes at the University of Valladolid have helped improve my vocabulary, accent, pronunciation, and understanding of the language in general. The classes in this course are really useful and the professors have a genuine desire to see you learn and appreciate the language.

Getting used to another culture can be a bit

difficult at first, but it really makes you appreciate the culture you live in, as well as opens your eyes to how other people live. Your host family can help you feel more comfortable and teach you so much—you just have to ask. Making Spanish friends has been awesome. They can show you around, tell you about the best places in the city, and help you understand things about the language and culture. The excursions with the university are good opportunities to travel, but take advantage of being in Europe! There are several long weekends and a two week break for Semana Santa, and I encourage you to travel! Travel around



Jessica Monk

Spain or branch out and try other European countries. A few of us have even traveled to Africa! If you find cheap flights and opt for hostels and cheaper hotels instead of five star hotels, the possibilities are incredible. See the world while you can.

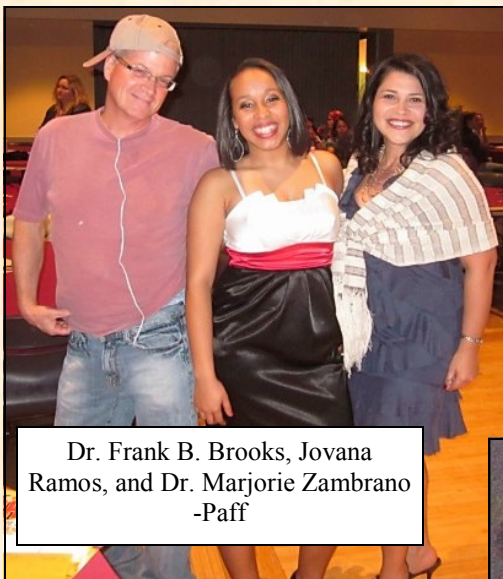
Study abroad is an amazing experience for so many reasons. If you take advantage of all the opportunities to learn, make new friends, and travel, it'll be an experience you'll never forget.





# Fiesta Latina October 2011

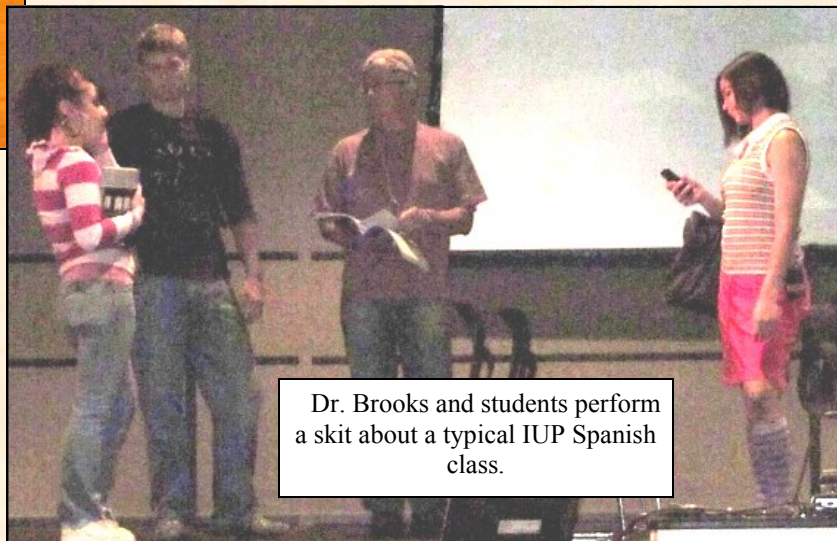
The Hispanic Heritage Council & Latino Student Organization (LASO) hosted *Noche Latina* on Saturday, October 15, 2011. Students and faculty members got together to celebrate the closing of Hispanic Heritage Month. *Noche Latina* promotes Hispanic culture and strengthens the Latino culture and heritage at a local, state and international level. After the show, there was a “*bocas* taste fest” and a dance.



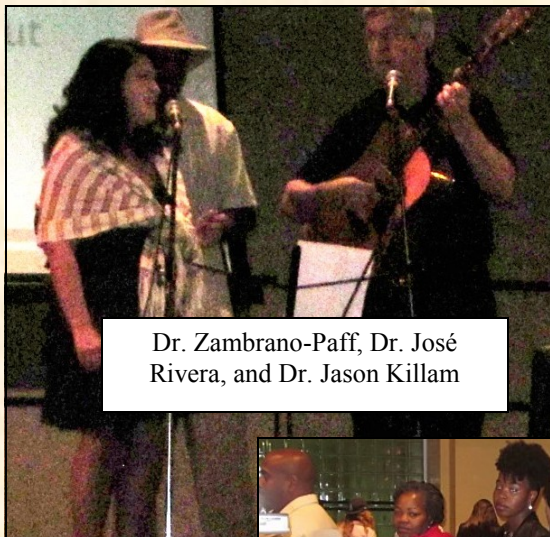
Dr. Frank B. Brooks, Jovana Ramos, and Dr. Marjorie Zambrano-Paff



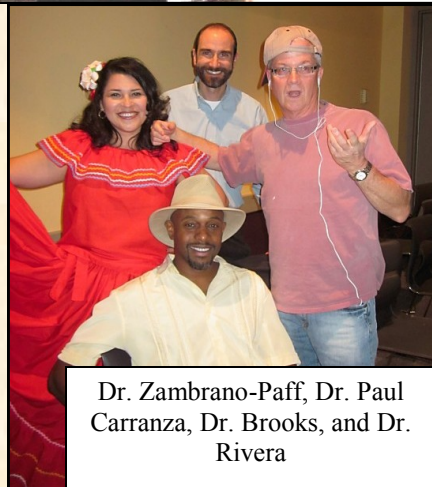
Dr. Zambrano-Paff and Dr. Christina Huhn



Dr. Brooks and students perform a skit about a typical IUP Spanish class.



Dr. Zambrano-Paff, Dr. José Rivera, and Dr. Jason Killam



Dr. Zambrano-Paff, Dr. Paul Carranza, Dr. Brooks, and Dr. Rivera



## IUP Department of Foreign Languages Hosts APPLES Foreign Language Festival

On Saturday, March 31, the Appalachian Language Educators Society (APPLES) held its 23rd Annual Language Festival. APPLES is a collaborative between university and secondary level educators in an eight county region of Southwestern Pennsylvania which has as its objectives to promote the study of language and maintain a dialogue between educators at various levels of language instruction. Represented were 10 schools, 25 teachers and

over 300 Jr. High and Sr. High students. Dr. Jason Killam, the event coordinator, and the APPLES Executive Committee would like to thank the more than 40 judges, proctors and students from IUP and St. Francis University, the participating schools and community members of the Indiana area who gave of their time to make the festival a success. The closing ceremony was a wonderful culminating event. More than 100 places were awarded to students recognized for their talent in academic language

events from beginning to advanced levels and related art, dance, drama and music categories. It was great to see these students cheered on by their fellow competitors for recognition of their hard work. Congratulations to all participants and we hope to see you all next year!



## IUP Students Take Second and Third Place Prizes at Chinese Proficiency Competition

IUP students participated in the Chinese Proficiency Competition held at Saint Vincent College on Saturday, March 24, 2012. Three students from Chinese 202 participated in the competition, with Christopher Barr and Courtney Wirtz winning Third Place, and Jazmin Jones taking the Second Place Prize.

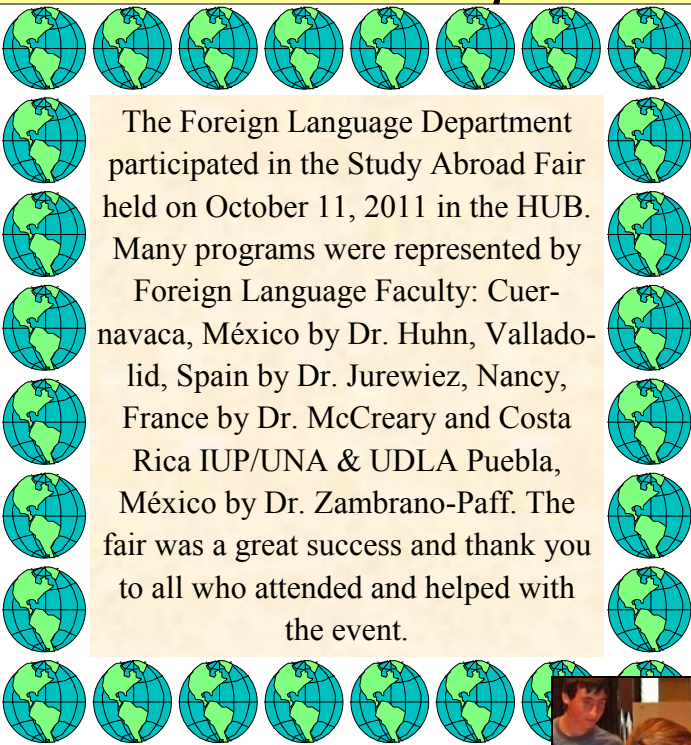
Jazmin has been invited to participate in the final competition to be held in New York on April 7, and received \$250 to cover her travel costs. There were total 33 contestants in the competition from seven institutions including Cleveland State University, Dickson College, Gettysburg College, IUP, John Carroll University, University of Akron, and the University of Pittsburgh). See page one for more info on Jazmin's success at the national competition in New York!



Dr. Shijuan (Laurel) Liu, co-Third Place Winner Courtney Wirtz, Second Place Winner Jazmin Jones, and Third Place co-Winner Christopher Barr



# Study Abroad Fair October, 2011



The Foreign Language Department participated in the Study Abroad Fair held on October 11, 2011 in the HUB. Many programs were represented by Foreign Language Faculty: Cuernavaca, México by Dr. Huhn, Valladolid, Spain by Dr. Jurewicz, Nancy, France by Dr. McCreary and Costa Rica IUP/UNA & UDLA Puebla, México by Dr. Zambrano-Paff. The fair was a great success and thank you to all who attended and helped with the event.



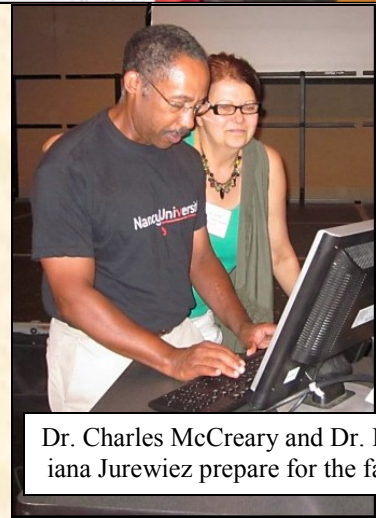
Dr. Marjorie Zambrano-Paff and Dr. Liliana Jurewicz speak with students about study abroad opportunities in the department.



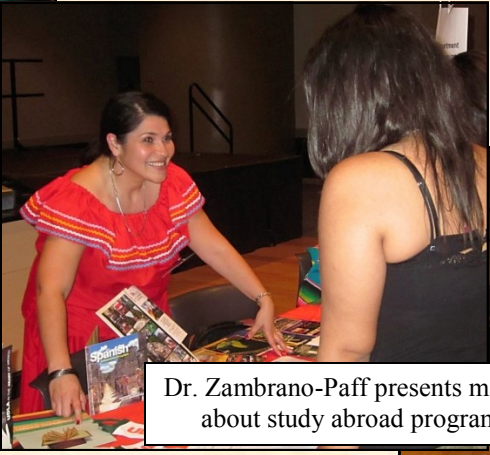
Dr. Christina Huhn prepares materials for the fair.



Dr. Jurewicz advises a student.



Dr. Charles McCreary and Dr. Liliana Jurewicz prepare for the fair.



Dr. Zambrano-Paff presents material about study abroad programs.





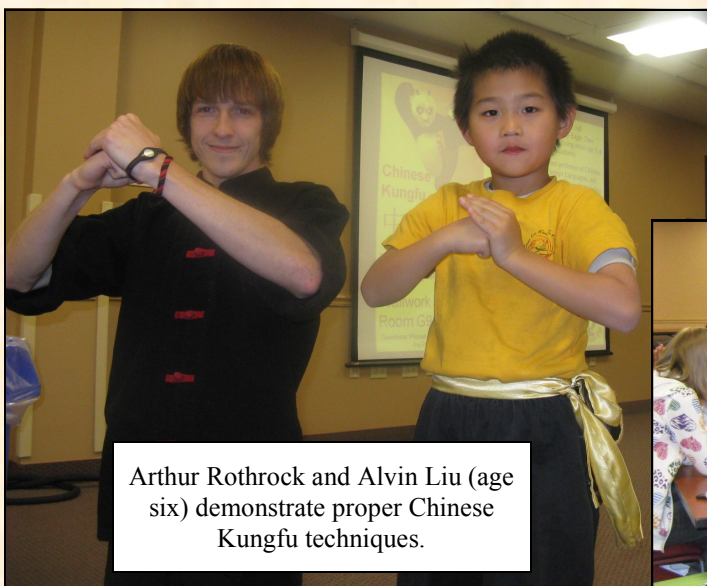
## Chinese New Year Celebration February 2, 2012

On February 2, 2012, Dr. Shijuan (Laurel) Liu hosted an informational event about the Chinese New Year. Dr. Liu gave an introductory overview of the holiday, and students from different areas in China also gave presentations about the traditions they practice on New Year's Day.



## Kungfu Demonstration Held on IUP Campus November 10, 2011

Arthur Rothrock, an IUP Senior, gave a demonstration in Chinese Kungfu (the Eagle Claw style), on November 10, 2011. Arthur has been practicing since he was five at Rothrock's Kungfu & Taichi Academy. Dr. Shijuan Liu gave an overview of Chinese Kungfu, including the major styles Shaolin Kungfu, Wudang Kungfu, and their histories.



Arthur Rothrock and Alvin Liu (age six) demonstrate proper Chinese Kungfu techniques.





## Faculty and Student Updates

**Maurice Childs ('09)** is currently in Calamocha, Spain working as an English Teaching Assistant in two elementary schools. This summer he plans to undertake the Camino de Santiago pilgrimage with another IUP Spanish alum, **Justin Yarros ('09)**.

**Dr. Laura Delbrugge** published a book chapter, "Pragmatism, Patience, and the Passion: The *Converso* Element in the *Summa de paciencia* (1493) and the *Thesoro de la passion* (1494)," in *Conversos of Medieval Iberia* in March 2011 with Brill Press.

**Dr. Eileen W. Glisan** recently attended a meeting of the STAR-TALK Task Force, a National Security Language Initiative (NSLI), whose mission is to increase the number of Americans learning, speaking, and teaching "critical need" foreign languages by offering students (K-16) and teachers of these languages creative and engaging summer experiences that strive to exemplify best practices in language education and in language teacher development.

Dr. Glisan also co-presented a session at the Modern Language Association annual convention held in Seattle, Washington in January 2012. The topic of the session was "Toward a Standards-Based Research Agenda." Additionally, Dr. Glisan is currently directing the national Research Priorities in Foreign Language Education Project, sponsored by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL). Phase I of the initiative will culminate in the publication of nine literature reviews in a special issue of *Foreign Language Annals* to appear in May 2012, co-edited by Dr. Glisan.

**Dr. Christina Huhn** has published "CAI and the ACTFL Proficiency Guidelines" in the fall 2011 issue of the *International Association for Language Learning Technology Journal*. Recent conference presentations included a session at the annual American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages convention in Denver, CO, November 18-20, 2011. The session was entitled "In Search of Innovation in Teacher Preparation: On Oral Proficiency Levels and Innovative Preparation Models." Publication is forthcoming (May 2012). She also presented research on the classroom practices of K-12 language teachers in a session entitled "Learners Wanted: Strategies and Methods in World Language Classrooms" at the Southern Conference on Language Teaching, March 22-24, 2012 in Atlanta, GA.

**Dr. Shijuan "Laurel" Liu** was invited to conduct a workshop to K-16 Chinese language instructors at the First Annual Chinese Pedagogical Workshop at Penn State University,

State College, on December 3, 2011. The title of the workshop was "Online Tools and Resources for Elementary Mandarin Courses." In addition, Dr. Liu presented at the 2012 Northeast Association for Language Learning Technology (NEALLT) held at Carnegie Mellon University, on March 31, 2012. The title of the presentation was "Examination of the Use of the Online Games in Chinese Language Teaching and Learning."

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★ Dr. Lydia Rodríguez of the Department of Foreign Languages is a co-recipient of the 2012 IUP Center for Faculty Recognition Awards in the category of Distance Education. Dr. Rodríguez, and other recipients of Center for Teaching Excellence Awards will be honored at the Annual CTE Awards Dinner on April 26. Congratulations Dr. Rodríguez!  
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The **Department of Foreign Languages** received a mini-grant from the IUP Reflective Practice Project for the new Teaching Circle on Foreign Language Teaching and Learning with Technologies (2011-2012). The grant application was written by **Drs. Shijuan "Laurel" Liu, Jean-Louis Dassier, Christina Huhn, and Sean McDaniel**.

**REMEMBER: The New Master's Program in Spanish begins Fall 2012. The Department is currently receiving applications. Be sure to check us out at [www.iup.edu/foreignlanguages](http://www.iup.edu/foreignlanguages) and make plans to join us in the fall.**