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The 2016-17 Polyglot Editors

Shijuan "Laurel" Liu

Vicente Gomis-Izquierdo

Spanish Education Grad Debuts in Educational Film

Naysa Altmeyer, a Spanish teacher in the Blairsville-Saltsburg School District and a 2009 IUP Spanish Education K-12 graduate had a very unordinary weekend in early December—she flew to Illinois to star in a Spanish music video! The video is a black and white film called “Amnesia”, created by Jim Wooldridge, a former Spanish teacher from the Chicago area who has since retired from teaching to focus on his film production career. Naysa says she discovered Jim Wooldridge, aka Señor Wooly, about two years ago when she was looking for interesting teaching materials to help engage her students. [The Señor Wooly website](#) is just the place to find creative videos that not only teach Spanish, but connect with the warped minds of middle and high school students with their strange plot lines and catchy lyrics.

Naysa recalled that she received a casting call email from Mr. Wooldridge himself, and she jumped on the opportunity. “I don’t know who was more excited when I found out I got picked”, says Naysa, “My students couldn’t believe it, and neither could I!” After the whirlwind trip, she concluded that it was “Really cool to meet Señor Wooly in person” and “An awesome opportunity to collaborate with colleagues from all over the United States.”



Above: Naysa Altmeyer and Jim Wooldridge

Naysa was one of twenty Spanish teachers who traveled to Carlyle, Illinois for the filming of “Amnesia”. Each teacher played a specific character in the town and Naysa was a nurse in the video along with two other women. “I learned so much about film-making and the process of creating an educational video and I hope I can apply some of these skills to future classroom projects.” Naysa said she will be sure to incorporate the song into her classes so her students can see her film debut.

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News from Our Alumni

Sierra Sailor, a 2015 IUP graduate with double majors in International Business and Asian Studies (with a concentration on China and the Chinese language), was hired to work in the Hong Kong office of a relocation company headquartered in Pittsburgh since February 2017. After graduating from IUP, Sierra also was hired as a temporary Chinese language teacher to teach Chinese at Kiski School, Saltsburg,

According to Sierra, “During the interview process, I made it very clear that I was very interested in their office in Hong Kong, and that whenever I have completed my training I would like to be transferred as soon as possible. My top priority and goal once I graduated was to work in Asia, and within a year’s time I had made it happen! Not only was I able to impress my employer that at such a young age I was able to transfer, but I was also the first employee in the entire company to relocate abroad to another office. Currently, I have been working in Hong Kong for 3 months, traveling all over Asia, and living the life I have always dreamed of!”



“If there is one piece of advice that I could give current IUP students it would be that if there is something in life that you truly want to succeed in, you will. The path is not always clear, but as long as your eyes are always on the prize, and you work hard, you will get there. Working in Asia had always been a dream of mine, and now it's my reality! Hard work does really pay off!”

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News from Our Alumni

Hannah Frishberg, a 2015 IUP Asian Studies graduate (with a concentration on China and the Chinese language), moved to China in the Spring of 2017 to work as the Community Coordinator for Kehilat Shanghai—the progressive Jewish Community here in Shanghai.

According to Hannah, there are about 3,000 Jewish people in Shanghai. In addition, there is also a Jewish community in Beijing and Shenzhen, as well as a long established community in Hong Kong. The Jewish community in Kaifeng city of Henan Province was the historic Jewish community with hundreds of years of history.



Picture: Hannah (second from left) with kids from her community on a weekend retreat to Hong Kong. Each of the kids living in Shanghai has a Jewish and a Chinese parent.

Hannah studied in Shanghai during her senior year on the Chinese government scholarship, which covered the cost of her full-year study in Shanghai. After her graduation, she worked as an Academic Coach for BridgeEDU while looking for a good opportunity to move back to China. The new position she holds in Shanghai is a dream job to her, as a Chinese language learner who has a Jewish background and has a Chinese boyfriend in China.

In reflecting on her experience, Hannah commented “It is amazing to think back how this journey began—sitting in Liu Laoshi [Professor Liu]’s office asking to join a Chinese class on my third day of my freshman year, to an advising session with Dr. Chandler in which we realized that I could spend my whole senior year abroad. My experiences in China that year left an indelible mark on who I am, and my cheerleaders and advisors at IUP made it happen.”

Read the next page for more updates and reflections from Hannah.

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News from Our Alumni

Quoted message from **Hannah Frishberg** (continued from page 5): “This month [May 2017] marks the two-year anniversary of my graduation from IUP—living full time in China, I am not able to go home often for homecomings, graduations, or alumni events. But some of my best friends from IUP understand the wanderlust of living abroad, and I am lucky to have one of those friends a 2.5 hour plane ride away! ...In February 2017, Sierra started her first day at Aries, a relocation company in Hong Kong, and I started my first day at the Community Coordinator for Kehilat Shanghai—the progressive Jewish Community here in Shanghai. We surpassed even our own expectations. The Chinese language and cultural skills I acquired at IUP, along with all the leadership roles I took on there, gave me the right mix of experience to lead this community—melding together my Jewish identity and love for China into a perfect role.”

“Jericho (杨晓龙) is from Chengdu city in Sichuan, but has been living and working in Shanghai for 8 years. I told him that 2017 was my year, meaning it was my Zodiac animal sign, the year of the Rooster, and that I would love to celebrate it with him--- this is how I ended up in Chengdu’s airport baggage claim....It felt like miles walking through the baggage claim, grasping Jericho’s hand. In a few short minutes, I would be meeting his parents and we would be starting our 8 day trip home for 春节 (Spring Festival, or Chinese New Year.) This was the first-time Jericho had ever brought a girlfriend home, especially a western girl, I had been prepared by my friends who enthralled me with every scenario of how this could go wrong. The only comforting thought was that his parents were about as nervous to meet me as I was them.”



Picture: Hannah with Jericho in Chengdu

“Despite a cultural and language barrier, his was like any family—on New Years eve the women (including myself) all danced together, lead by his aunt who is a traditional arts coach. His great uncle lives out on a farm, where the food we ate had been prepared fresh that day, some of it from the gifts of eggs and tea we had brought from town. And the full 8 days, we just ate and ate and ate. I never knew there was so many different types of 火锅 (hot pot), a type of meal that Sichuan is particularly famous for. We set off fire crackers in the streets, watching the red paper wrapped around them flutter gently to the ground as large fireworks boomed in the distance. ...”

“Every night when Jericho and I would return, his mom and dad would ask me the same three questions : 你冷不冷? 你吃了吗? 今天好玩不好玩? (Are you cold? Did you eat? Was today fun?) I would always respond: 我不冷 (I am not cold), but his mom would wrap me in a blanket. 我吃饱了 (I ate enough), but there was always then a piece of fruit placed in my hands. 今天非常好玩 (Today was very fun), and they both would smile.”

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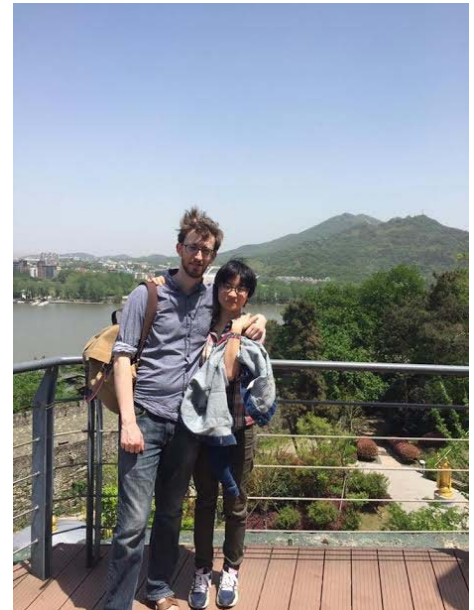
THE POLYGLOT SPRING 2017

News from Our Alumni

Robert Werder, a 2015 December graduate with double majors in Anthropology and Asian Studies, (with a focus on China and the Chinese language), has been working in China as an English instructor in Jinling Technology University, Nanjing, China. In his spare time he continues his Chinese language learning and plans to apply for graduate school. He also reports that he has found a Chinese girlfriend and they will get married this summer!

Quoted message from Robert with a picture below with his girlfriend, soon to be bride in Nanjing.

“I originally became interested in Asian Studies when I took Liu Laoshi's Chinese language, and I quickly saw the value in the language. It was challenging at first, but it sparked my interest in Chinese studies. Liu Laoshi recommended that I study at Nanjing University in Nanjing China. So my last year I got on a plane, and studied Chinese there for a semester. I made many friends, improved my Chinese, and learned more about the culture. Since I enjoyed my experience so much, after graduating I decided to come back to teach for a year. I have a small apartment in the middle of the city, and my life is far from boring. I learn something new everyday, and in a few months I am getting married. To satiate my lifestyle, I teach English at a local university, and since my hours are low, I can keep up with my studies while making money on the side. As for the future, I have been studying for the next HSK exam and prepping for my PhD.”



Below: Robert (sitting) talking with some of CHIN101 students after class on Feb. 7.



Robert visited his family in the United States during his winter break in February (when the whole country celebrated the Chinese New Year in China). He drove down to IUP and talked with students enrolled in Chinese language classes about his experience in China upon invitation from Dr. Shijuan Liu.

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News from Our Alumni

Courtney Fenters, a 2012 IUP graduate with a major in criminology and minor in German, sent her updates and shared her experience below:

“I really enjoyed the cultural aspects of my upper-level German classes at IUP. I think it's difficult to grasp just how much the history of a country influences the mindset and outlook of its people, and Germany in particular is so complex and unique in that regard. Frau Witthöft's analysis of films, stories, and other cultural artifacts seemed at the time to cover so much material, but they really only scratched the surface. I've had an interest in languages since I first started studying Spanish at 12 years old. I studied both Spanish and German at IUP, but my longest stint abroad was



5 weeks completing the Camino de Santiago in Spain with Dr. Caleb Finegan. I never really got to immerse myself in another culture or language for a longer period of time, although I definitely had an interest. While still a student at IUP, I attended some kind of career or study abroad fair where I met with a representative from the State Department. That's where I learned about CBYX, and although I wasn't able to participate in the program immediately, it stayed in the back of my mind throughout the rest of my time at IUP, grad school, and afterwards.”

“My experience in Germany has been great. My program is unique in that it has allowed me to experience a variety of aspects of German life, rather than being solely university- or work-focused. I lived with a host family in Cologne for two months and attended language school there. Then I moved into a student dorm in Mainz, where I attended classes at the university for a semester before I jumped into internships. I have felt absolutely welcomed by everyone here, but especially by people who have, themselves, studied in or visited the United States. It surpasses the hospitality I have experienced in the U.S.! Since coming to Germany, my German has improved immensely.I have come to really enjoy the language and I have made some wonderful friends and contacts in Germany. I hope that this connection will be life-long. Although I have no concrete plans for after the program, as of right now I am very open to returning to Germany for work or school. Although relocating to Europe on a semi-permanent basis would have been intimidating to me a few years ago, the world seems like a much smaller and friendlier place now that I've been living here for a while.”

“I think potential students of German might be discouraged by the (false) idea that it's of no real benefit anymore, but based on my own experiences in Germany, I think this is a misconception. It is an easy mistake to think of the relationship between Germany and the U.S. in terms of WWII and its aftermath, but the truth is that the two countries have a modern, strong, but still-evolving relationship, which is actually becoming more important in today's global political climate. There is a need for people to help bridge the two cultures, and plenty of organizations working to do just that. I would tell students that if they are really interested, they should do some research into available programs and take advantage of them.”

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News from Our Students

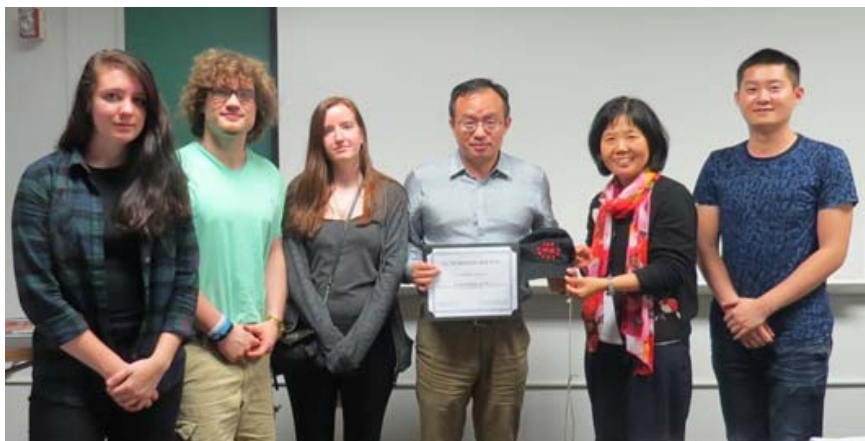
Chinese Language and Culture Club

The Chinese Language and Culture Club celebrated the Chinese New Year in the Asian Studies Lounge of Wallwork Hall on January 28. The event was supported by the Wallwork Living Learning Community and well received. Attendees, including IUP students, faculty, and staff members, participated in hands-on activities and watched related videos online together.

The Club also organized a number of other activities throughout the semester, such as game nights, and events on practicing Chinese, and learning about China from visiting scholars from China. Additionally, the Club showed four movies in April, namely, *The Monkey King*, *American Dreams in China*, *Shaolin Soccer*, and *I am not Madam Bovary*, and invited speakers who were graduate students or visiting scholars from China for discussion.



Above: Group picture of some participants after the event, including students and a couple of faculty members: Dr. Shijuan Liu (the club faculty advisor), and Dr. Hao Tang (from the Chemistry Dept., standing second from left, holding the red paper cut 春).



Left: On behalf of the club, Dr. Shijuan Liu (second from right) presented the certificate of recognition to Dr. Zhigang Zhu (third from right), a visiting scholar from China in the IUP's Department of Political Science, for his contribution to the club through the semester on April 20. Dan Wedthli (second from left) is the Club President, and Amber Pavucsko (third from left) is the Vice-President for 2016-17.

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News from Our Students

Latin American Student Organization

LaSO (Latin American Student Organization) had their End of the Year celebration on Thursday April 27th at the Blue Room in Sutton. At this ceremony, several Spanish majors and minors and a faculty member were recognized for the work with LaSO.



Above: Allison Startari and Ryan Caldwell (Spanish Ed. Majors)



Above (left to right): Destiny Paula (Spanish Major), and Yeslli Hernández-Camacho (Spanish Minor).



Above: Dr. Marjorie Zambrano-Paff



Right: Narhari Pokhrel (Spanish Major)

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News from Our Students

IUP German Club

The IUP German Club hosted a number of events during the 2016-2017 academic year. These events included:

- Fairy Tale night
- Oktoberfest night
- Game night
- German Music night
- Movie night
- German Trivia night
- Food night

The following students served as officers of the German Club during 2016-2017:

President: Nicholas Mangieri

Vice President: Lena Shandorf

Secretary: Kate Seale

Faculty Advisors:

Advisor and Treasurer: Dr. Heide Witthöft

Co-Advisor: Dr. Joachim Noob



Above: German Club members (from left to right): Kate Seale, Steven Mikolas, Michaela Caldwell, Cassandra Craig, and Nicholas Mangieri

Dr. Noob also hosted the *Stammtisch*, the German language table at IUP, which met every two weeks during the academic year.

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Experiences of Two German Minors

Hanna Andrussier and Gabrielle Reed, two IUP students who minor in German, shared their experience in learning German before they graduated in May 2017. Hanna majors in International Business with a concentration in Marketing, and Gabrielle majors in English Literature.



Hanna: “I started taking German in 9th grade. I fell in love with Germany through the class and knew that I wanted to visit the country eventually. My high school was huge and had its own exchange program for students to study abroad in a select few countries for their Junior year. I applied and won the spot to study abroad in Aalen, Germany. I spent September 2011 – July 2012 in Aalen, Germany living with a host family, going to a German Gymnasium (high school), attending an intensive language course, and playing on a club soccer team. This experience changed me for the better and helped me become who I am today. Since then I have gone back to visit Germany twice and I also studied abroad through IUP in Nuremberg, Germany for the Spring 2016 semester. I came in at a high level since I was already well versed in the language. I wish there were more credits offered for the German program since the faculty that teach German are great at what they do. Studying abroad in Germany through IUP was great and I loved being able to live in Germany

for a second time. I was a tutor for German for three years, and I also served as secretary, vice-president, and then president of the IUP German Club while I was here. It was nice having a group outside of class that shared common interest in German. I also volunteered at International Unity Day with the German Club in 2014 and 2015 and prepared Käse-Spätzle for the occasion, a German food specialty. Being an International Business major, it is required that we meet a minimum foreign language requirement. Since I have lived in Germany twice, and I have also traveled to 15 different countries, my knowledge and understanding of different cultures helps me understand a lot more in my courses related to my major. I wish more people understood the advantages that come with studying abroad or even traveling outside of the U.S. I now have friends not only in Germany, but also all over Europe and other parts of the world. German helps you in more ways than you would expect. After learning German, it helped me understand more words in English, and where they came from. Being bilingual helps you succeed in different facets of your life and I have had more opportunities to speak German than I ever expected. Learning a second language is always a great idea. I am in the process of applying and interviewing with companies. I don’t know where I will end up, but I do have a trip planned in May to go to Australia, New Zealand, and Tahiti, so that is something to look forward to!”



Gabrielle: “I started taking German in high school, when I was accidentally placed into a German class. I fell in love with the language and later with the culture. I continued my German education here at IUP and continued to fall in love with it as a whole. The professors here made learning fun and shared their own experiences, making what we learned more applicable to everyday life. I studied abroad in Marburg, Germany in 2015 for the fall semester. While there I fell in love with the country, never having felt more at home anywhere else. Being there sparked in me the desire to continue to work with people from all over the world. I plan to continue at IUP next fall for the MA TESOL program

and hopefully, one day, I’ll end up back in Germany. To anyone who wants to try a new language, I highly recommend German. It’s a fun language and the culture is as rich as the torte cakes that are popular in Germany. By taking German classes you open yourself up to expanding your mind and gaining the opportunity for experiences you wouldn’t think you’d have (because no matter what you plan to do, knowing a second language is mighty impressive). I have loved my time studying German more than I can put into words. It has helped me to see the world and influenced my life in so many ways. If I could do it all over, I wouldn’t change a thing.”

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Congratulations 2016-17 Graduates

B.A. in Spanish

Sarah Nelson Bradshaw	****
Molly Carty	Summa Cum Laude
Megan Grace Culbertson	Summa Cum Laude*
Kelsey Alaine Durham	
Rebecca Dawn Feveryear	Summa Cum Laude
Ciara Danielle Irwin	Summa Cum Laude
Elizabeth Mae Keller	Summa Cum Laude****
Danielle Leanne Kieser	Summe Cum Laude****
Josiah James Monardo	**
Katherine Ann Nixdorf	***
Destiny Paula	
Brock Angelo Romano	
Lauren Nicole Wilsoncroft	***

Spanish Minor

Samantha Elizabeth Barnhart	Summa Cum Laude****
Gino Vincent Cappa	Summa Cum Laude
Vanessa Rose DiClaudio	Cum Laude
Gabrielle A. Gentilcore	Summa Cum Laude
Victoria Ann Hallett	
Yeslli Ann Hernandez-Camacho	Summa Cum Laude**
Jordan Lee Huntzinger	Cum Laude
Christine Ashley Loria	
Jillian Mae Parker	Cum Laude
Sharay Lynn Price	**
Alexis Nicole Rodriguez	Magna Cum Laude
Olivia Shai Stossel	
Sarah Elisabeth Zielinski	Cum Laude

B.S. Ed., Secondary Spanish

Elizabeth Mae Keller	Summa Cum Laude
Danielle Leanne Kieser	Summa Cum Laude

French Minor

Nicole Elizabeth Fidler	Suma Cum Laude*
Allyson Rae Null	*

Certificate in Spanish

Constance R. Brown	Cum Laude
Jenna Morgan Dell	Summa Cum Laude
Kathleen L. Guarino	
Emily Jean Tkacik	Cum Laude

German Minor

Hanna Andrussier Magna	Cum Laude
Justin Zachary Bogar	
Gabrielle A. Reed	Summa Cum Laude
Danielle Nichole Yushinski	Summa Cum Laude

Certificate in Chinese

Kortnee Lynn Blair

Certificate in French

Dylan James Adams
Amanda Cathleen Peterson Magna Cum Laude

- * December 2016 Graduates
- ** August 2017 Graduates
- *** Sigma Delta Pi (National Spanish Honorary)
- **** Phi Sigma Iota (International Foreign Language Honor Society)

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Faculty-led Events

The Hispanic Heritage Council

The Hispanic Heritage Council sponsored two movie forums in the Spring semester of 2017 that fostered visibility of Latino culture and offered students and faculty a chance to discuss issues related to identity in today's society.

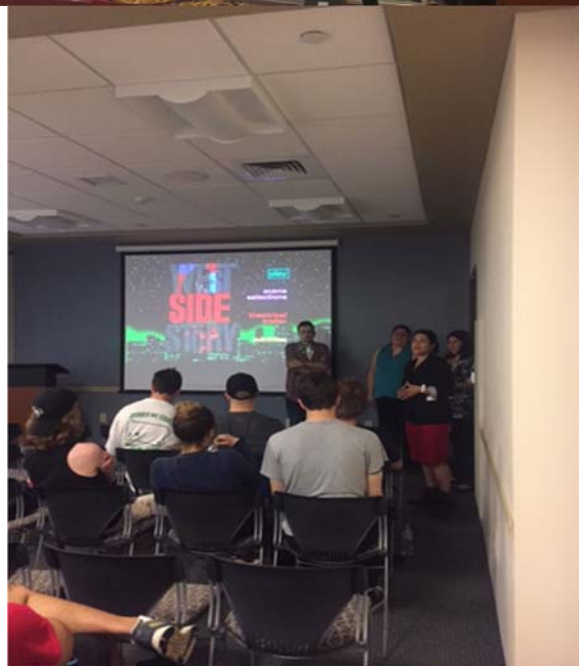
The first forum showed the film “A Day Without a Mexican” and the guest respondent was Dr. Hilario Molina (in the right picture) from the Sociology Department. It was very well-attended and students showed a great deal of interest in discussing issues of identity and perception of race.

The second forum showed “West Side Story” and the guest respondent was Dr. Maria Enriquez (picture below), from Penn State-Harrisburg. The discussion related to “white washing” in Hollywood was also very interesting and a lot of students were very involved in it.



Above: Dr. Vicente Gomis-Izquierdo (left) and Dr. Hilario Molina discuss some last minute details as students walk into the room, with Prof Rachel DeSoto-Jackson (far right).

Right: Hispanic heritage Council members standing in front of the audience (left to right) Drs. Vicente Gomis-Izquierdo, Rachel DeSoto-Jackson, Marjorie Zambrano-Paff (chair), and Dr. Maria Enriquez (guest respondent)



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Chinese Program Celebrates the Chinese Spring Festival

The Chinese Program organized the 2017 Chinese Spring Festival celebration in the Ohio Room of HUB on February 3. The celebration included hands-on cultural activities and games such as using chopsticks, playing ping-pong and Majiang, cooking demo, as well as a variety of stage performances including skits, songs, violin, and martial arts demonstration. Students from Chinese language courses performed skits and songs in Chinese, and students taking Chinese culture class displayed their projects on China. A group of visiting scholars from China and other members from the IUP community such as Dr. Pablo Mendoza, Assistant to the President for Social Equity at IUP, and a parent of a graduate student from China also performed at the event.



Above: Dr. Shijuan Liu (middle, holding the poster) with some student volunteers and participants after the event

Below: Some pictures from the event. Click [here](#) to see more pictures from the event.



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Celebration of Chinese Lantern Festival

The Chinese Program organized the Chinese Lantern Festival celebration, supported by the Chinese Language and Culture Club and Asian Studies in Wallwork G98 on February 11.

A few faculty, visiting scholars, and other community members associated from China taught participants how to make Yunxiao, a must traditional festive food for Lantern festival, Chinese dumpling, and cook Chinese glutinous cake.



Above: Dr. Shijuan Liu (left) handed the boiled Yunxiao, a traditional festive food for Chinese lantern festival, to Veronica Caro, a student participant.



Left: Students were learning how to make Yunxiao through hands-on demonstration

Below: Students learning to make Chinese dumpling



Below: Justin Hardin, a student participant, tasting a piece of the fried glutinous cake.



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2017 APPLES Foreign Language Festival

IUP hosted the 28th annual Appalachian Professional Language Educators' Society (APPLES) Foreign Language Festival on March 25, 2017. This event is huge! 27 teachers from regional junior and senior high schools brought more than 350 students to compete in 13 different events. Students are given the opportunity to express themselves in the four proficiency areas of listening, speaking, reading and writing in Spanish, French and German as well as through various mediums of art, music, dance and drama. The day began with registration and lots of food. After the opening ceremonies, more than 100 students tested their skills in Composition at 9:45 AM. This was followed by Listening and Reading at 11:00 AM. Dance and Drama began at 12:30 PM. Speaking and Literary Recitation ran for the duration of the day as well as Music Instrumental, Music Vocal, Art Construction Model, Art Original, Art Reproduction and Art T-shirt design. Competitions ended at 3:30 PM and judges worked at a break-neck pass, but nevertheless coolly, to compile results to present at the closing ceremonies that ended at 4:30 PM. 1st, 2nd and 3rd places are awarded for each event, and for the proficiency-based categories, 1st, 2nd and 3rd places are awarded for each event and level (16 levels with 6 in French, 4 in German and 6 in Spanish)! Finally, overall awards (including a \$50 winner's check for each level) were awarded to best combined places in the proficiency categories for seven levels (German 4, French 4, French 5, French 6, Spanish 4, Spanish 5 and Spanish 6).



Students from Central High School in Martinsburg who participated in the festival.

APPLES is truly a collaborative! Teachers from no less than ten area school districts and professors from no less than four area universities met numerous times and for many

hours, communicating tirelessly for many months to provide our young language learners the opportunity to share their skills and a forum to meet others interested in language and culture. If you have not been involved in recent years or have never heard of APPLES and would like to be involved, please contact either the president, Dr. Christina Huhn (huhn@iup.edu), or the festival coordinator, Dr. Jason Killam (jkillam@iup.edu) for more information.

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Outreach

On April 26, a group of 10 area Spanish teachers met with some faculty from the Spanish division to brainstorm ideas for recruiting more students into advanced high school Spanish classes and into IUP's Spanish Education K-12 Program. The focus of the discussion was the implementation of new approaches to attract more students into a teaching career.



The following high school teachers attended the meeting: Brian Henninger, Daniel Murphy, Indiana Area School District; Jesse Carnevali, Leanne Lentz, Jeff Stanczak, Franklin-Regional School District; Naysa Altmeyer, Kirk Lentz, Blairsville-Saltsburg School District; Kevin Buynack, Louise Wilson, Spring Cove School District; Jerome (Jay) Dibernardo, Westmont-Hilltop School District.

Spanish faculty who participated were: Drs. Frank Brooks, Laura Delbrugge, Eileen Glisan, Christina Huhn, Jason Killam, and Sean McDaniel.

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The 42nd IUP Spring Methodology Conference

The 42nd IUP Spring Methodology Conference on Foreign Language Teaching was successfully held at the Kovalchick Center on Friday April 21st. The conference was well received and over 120 people attended it.



Above: Participants at the keynote speech

The keynote speaker, was Dr. Bonnie Adair-Hauck from University of Pittsburgh. Her talk along with presentations given by other accomplished presenters such as Dr. Richard Donato from University of Pittsburgh made for a very enjoyable and educational conference. Presenters from many local school districts offered very insightful ideas for the classroom, with the use of IPA (Integrated Performance Assessment) taking a very prominent presence in this year's Conference, along with "flipping classrooms" and the inclusion of culture at all levels of language teaching.

Right: Dr. Bonnie Adair-Hauck (third from right), the keynote speaker, Dean Yaw Asamoah (first row, second from left), with the Conference committee (from left to right) Drs. Pete Brooks, Christina Huhn (committee co-chair), Vicente Gomis-Izquierdo, Eileen Glisan, Charles McCreary (second row, second from right), Jason Killam, Jean-Louis Dassier (committee co-chair, first row, second from right), and Yongtaek Kim (first from right)



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The Foreign Language Certificate

Beginning in spring semester 2016, the Department of Foreign Languages has offered the new Certificate programs in Chinese, French, German, Japanese, and Spanish. The Foreign Language Certificate is an 18-credit program aimed at those who want to add a foreign language credential to their main academic preparation, either as a bachelor's degree in progress, or in a post-baccalaureate setting. The Certificate is an excellent opportunity for students in any college of the university, particularly those in colleges where foreign language study is not generally required.

To earn a Certificate, students need to complete the introductory and intermediate course sequence (101, 102, and 201) in their chosen foreign language, and two upper level courses beyond 201. For French, German, and Spanish, 220 is required with another upper level course (often 230) approved by the Department Chairperson or the Chairperson's designee. For Chinese and Japanese, the two upper level courses related to language or culture must be approved by the Department Chairperson or the Chairperson's designee.

In addition, students need to take the ACTFL [Oral Proficiency Interview](#) (OPI) or [Oral Proficiency Interview by Computer](#) (OPIc), which can help them assess how well they can speak the language in a valid and reliable manner. Twenty three IUP students have taken the OPIc by the end of spring semester of 2017.

If you have questions or wish to pursue a Certificate, please contact the office of the Foreign Languages Department in Room 455 of Sutton Hall, by phone (724) 357-2325 or email Dr. Laura Delbrugge at lauradel@iup.edu.

The Foreign Language Certificate is an exciting new collaborative initiative of the Foreign Language Department faculty. Special recognition goes to Dr. Sean McDaniel (Chairperson of the Department, 2010-2017), Dr. Dawn Smith-Sherwood (Assistant Chair, 2014-17), and the Curriculum Committee of the Department chaired by Dr. Marveta Ryan-Sams. In addition, Drs. Jason Killam and Heide Witthöft played an instrumental role in providing orientation to students and administering the OPIc exams.

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Faculty Scholarly Activities

Dr. Eileen W. Glisan was recertified by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages as an oral proficiency tester of Spanish. Her certification was earned in January 2017 and is valid through February 6, 2021. Earning this certification involves a rigorous process of conducting individual oral proficiency interviews (OPIs) and rating them using the ACTFL proficiency scale. Certified testers are qualified to conduct OPIs and rate them. Dr. Glisan also conducted two presentations in February 2017 at the annual Northeast Conference on the Teaching of Foreign Languages, held in New York City. She co-presented a full-day pre-conference workshop and a one-hour session. The topic of both presentations was the implementation of high-leverage teaching practices in foreign language teaching, based largely on her recently published book, *Enacting the Work of Language Instruction: High-Leverage Teaching Practices*, co-authored with Dr. Richard Donato, University of Pittsburgh.

Dr. Christina Huhn gave a presentation at the Northeast Conference on the teaching of Foreign Languages held in New York, NY on February 9-11, 2017. The title of her presentation was National Standards in post-secondary beginning Spanish textbooks, and formed part of a moderated research roundtable discussion. Dr. Huhn also gave an invited collaborative presentation on October 17, 2016 entitled “Rejection before the hiring interview: The importance of developing a solid Teaching Philosophy” with Joann Migyanka and Alicia Pence (Communication Disorders and Special Education). The presentation was part of a seminar for the Preparing Future Faculty Program sponsored by the Center for Teaching Excellence. The program provides professional development opportunities for graduate students (see the [CET website](#) for more details). In addition, Dr. Huhn was invited in Fall of 2016 to become a member of the Audit team for the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP). CAEP works with the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages to develop the standards for World Language Teacher Education programs both nationally and internationally. The Audit team is a group of 7 language educators who review all submitted reports from programs seeking national recognition. The goal of the audit team is to maintain consistency and reliability by verifying that all programs have been appropriately reviewed and assure that the reviewers have completed their tasks as appropriate.

Dr. Vicente Gomis-Izquierdo attended the Southeast Coastal Conference on Languages and Literatures held on March 23-25 in Savannah, Georgia, where he presented a paper titled “Crimen y sociedad en El crimen de la Calle de Fuencarral de Galdós.” Dr. Gomis-Izquierdo also chaired a panel related to XX-Century Peninsular literature and culture at the conference .

Dr. Marjorie Zambrano-Paff published the following book chapter “ ‘Pregúntele si él lo duda también de eso’. La desconstrucción de la imagen descortés del juez ante la ausencia de ironía y sarcasmo mediado en la corte de inmigración de los Estados Unidos” in the book entitled *Roles situacionales, interculturalidad y multiculturalidad en encuentros en español*. Buenos Aires: Editorial Dunken, 2016.

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An Interview with Dr. Kathy Barton: What About Me?

By Lydia Rodríguez

Dr. Kathy Barton was one of the three IUP faculty faces who interviewed me when I applied for a position at IUP 17 years ago. Given she had interviewed me at the beginning of my career, I found it fitting to interview her at the end of her career at IUP. We met over coffee at her home one Saturday morning. I began the conversation with “Kathy, why don’t you tell me a little about yourself.” Her response was, “What About Me?” And so, the narration of her interest in Spanish, her career, and her future plans began.

Who would have thought that two seemingly insignificant life experiences would have given such direction to my life and I would end up teaching at IUP for 32 plus years.

It was during our six grade trip spring of 1959 when all the six graders boarded school buses and traveled to Pittsburgh to watch the Pirates play ball in Forbes Field. Seated in right field I was dazzled by the performance of right fielder, Roberto Clemente. From that afternoon I carried the dream of meeting him some day. In order to prepare, I began in earnest, to immerse myself in the Spanish language and culture wherever and however I could, as much as was possible in Indiana, PA.

In high school, when planning for my future career, I chose Spanish Education as my undergraduate major, followed by a Masters in Hispanic Literature and later, a PhD in Spanish Applied Linguistics and Teaching Methodology. All have served me in expected and many unexpected ways.

Along the way ... Synod Youth and Partnership in Mission committee at the national level of the Presbyterian Church, USA, chose me as one of two leaders to accompany a group of high school students on a mission trip to a small, rural Mexican town, Xonacatlán, where we met and lived with a Mexican family that would become “my Mexican family” and “enrichers” of my life.

That was many years ago. Since then, my professional life has been the main focus of my years and, until January 7, 2017, had revolved around my 32 years as a faculty member in the Department of Foreign Languages at IUP teaching Spanish language courses, conversation, methodology at times. Although there is much I could elaborate on regarding my teaching experience here at IUP there are two specific experiences that have brought me the most fulfillment. One was internship supervision in Mexico and the initiation and development of the after school Spanish program in conjunction with Dr. Walter Keeley (deceased) for the benefit of 2nd graders at East Pike Elementary School. Both were wonderful opportunities for future Spanish teachers to experience actual teaching of “real” elementary students. (Continued on next page)



Above: Dr. Barton catching up on some reading

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An Interview with Dr. Kathy Barton (Cont.)

(Continued from page 18)

I will always hold special memories of the many semesters, driving to and from Philadelphia and the Northern Virginia and Maryland areas overnight in order to observe and supervise student teachers practicing in Spanish bilingual and Spanish immersion schools. I always found the time spent so very worthwhile sharing some of my expertise and experience, observing these students and knowing they would be bringing to fruition their years of study.

Now that I am actually retired and thoroughly enjoying my free time, my plans include national and international travel, lending my talents to various humanitarian causes, and catching-up on my reading. Because I would find it difficult to give up on teaching entirely, I am looking forward to volunteering in the English as a Second Language Program and tutoring IUP's student athletes who may be in need of support in their Spanish courses! High on my immediate list is the completion of the testing program for the textbook project which the publisher is promising for next year.

In addition to the above activities, I will be able to spend extra time with my family, especially my young granddaughters, Morgan and Scarlett, and with my three wonderful cat companions, Chico, Blue Ivy and Toby!

Although I never met Roberto Clemente and still, at times, mourn his untimely death, speaking to him was not to be, and he would never know what an impact his life, his God given talents and his humanitarian gifts have had on my life path! I have much to be thankful for: My experiences at IUP, my students and my colleagues over the years have added much to my fulfillment and happiness!

Four hours later, at the dining room table and Chico the cat weaving between my legs, I had captured—as if in a capsule—Dr. Kathy Barton's career oriented story. A story she had originally questioned with "What about me?" Her account has found itself on paper for others to read. Everyone has a story to tell, and Kathy Barton's begins with "Play Ball!"



Above: Dr. Kathy Barton and "Chico"

Dr. Kathy Barton can be reached at kpbarton@auxmail.iup.edu.

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Dr. Frank Brooks's Retirement

Dr. Frank B. Brooks (also known as Pete Brooks) retires at the end of Spring 2017 with more than 40 years of teaching experience. A party was held at Dr. Laura Delbrugge's house to celebrate the achievements of Dr. Brooks and give best wishes to his new life chapter on May 5.

Dr. Books earned his Ph.D. from The Ohio State University, and joined IUP in Fall 2005 as an associate professor after working at Florida State University, Tallahassee, for fifteen years. Prior to that, he was a faculty member in Modern Languages at Longwood University, Farmville, VA. Dr. Brooks is known for his research on second language acquisition and classroom discourse. His work can be found in such prestigious peer-reviewed journals as *Foreign Language Annals*, *Journal of Applied Linguistics*, *Language Learning*, in addition to other venues. The article entitled "Literary Discussions and Advanced Speaking Functions: Researching the (Dis)Connection" that he coauthored with a colleague received the Paul Pimsleur Award for Research in Foreign Language Education, a national award given by ACTFL and *The Modern Language Journal*. The article is available at *Foreign Language Annals* (2004) 37: 183-199.



Dr. Books (middle), Dean Asamoah (left), Dr. Glisan (right), Dr. Ryan-Sams (front) at the party.

Dr. Brooks has played a significant role in the department. He taught a variety of courses from lower-level Spanish courses to Intermediate Conversation, as well as SPAN 390 (Teaching Elementary Content Through Spanish), EDUC 242 (Pre-Student Teaching I), and graduate courses in the Spanish M.A. Program (which he also directed). Additionally, he made major contributions to the Spanish Education K-12 Program as the advisor of the freshmen and sophomore majors and the Supervisor of Pre-Student Teaching I at East Pike Elementary School in Indiana. Dr. Brooks helped to recruit new majors, participated in the Mid-Program Review assessments, and supervised student teachers within a 75-mile radius of IUP. Further, he attended meetings of TECC (Teacher Education Coordinators' Council) in the College of Education and Educational Technology. In addition to his involvement in Spanish Education, Dr. Brooks served for many years on the Department Evaluation Committee, on which he devoted much time to conducting peer observations and writing evaluation letters. From the beginning of his time at IUP, he also worked diligently on the Planning Committee of the IUP Spring Methodology Conference on Foreign Language Teaching, of which he served as Co-Chair for several years. With his avid interest in travel to Spanish-speaking countries, Dr. Brooks directed the IUP-Mexico Summer Study Abroad Program in Cuernavaca, Mexico, for 5 years. He also took advantage of the opportunity to participate in a faculty exchange for a semester in Costa Rica. Dr. Brooks is going to move to Virginia after retirement, and we will miss him very much in the Department!



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Now that you’ve read all of our news, we would like to hear some of yours! Please fill out the following questionnaire and return it to the address at:

Attn: *Polyglot Team*
Department of Foreign Languages
455 Sutton Hall
Indiana University of Pennsylvania
Indiana, PA, 15705

If you prefer to respond by Email, please send your information to:

Polyglot.iup@gmail.com. Thank You!

Your Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Email Address: _____

Language (s) Studied at IUP: _____

Degree (s) received/Year: _____

Study Abroad Program(s) attended, if any (Country/Year): _____

UPDATE:

Any news about yourself? _____

Any other alumni’s addresses you know? _____

How are you using your language skills? _____

Any special memories of your language experiences that you would like to share? _____

The 2016-17 Polyglot Editors

Shijuan “Laurel” Liu & Vicente Gomis-Izquierdo