

Pepperdine University

INTERNATIONAL STUDIES AND LANGUAGES

DIVISION

APRIL 26, 2014



Honoring our grads



OUTSTANDING GRADUATES

Peter Talbot - INTS, Management

Patrick Rear - INTS, Political Studies

Wil Fisher - INTS, Latin American Studies

Leanne Rempel - INTS, Intercultural Communications

Chris Nishijima - INTS, Middle East/North Africa Studies

Tyler Ditmore - Overall International Studies Major

Leanne Rempel - Hispanic Studies Major

Angela Haverly - Italian Minor

Patrick Rear - German Major

Twenty-three Hispanic Studies students in Dr. Lila Carlsen's SPAN 252 Second-Year Spanish II course taught a four-unit series in basic Spanish to 110 students at Point Dume Marine Science School in Malibu. The Point Dume students ranged from kindergarten to fifth grade and learned elementary Spanish vocabulary and grammar for oral and written communication. Dr. Carlsen's students created original interactive lessons with games, songs, and role-play to teach the concepts. The Pepperdine students also explained the importance of continuing to learn Spanish and other languages as a lifelong task. This pilot project was well-received by all at Point Dume School. The teachers have shared that their students now come to school every day and ask if they have Spanish class. This project was generously supported by the Pepperdine Volunteer Center. ISL student, Alyssa Galik, served as this project's Service-Learning Advocate.

Hispanic Studies Students Teach at Point Dume School



This past academic year, Dr. David Simonowitz served as lead scholar for a book discussion series and a lecture series funded by joint grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the American Library Association. He also organized a major, international symposium on Asians in the Americas. Additionally, he invited outside scholars to give public lectures on subjects such as Christian missionaries and Bible printing in Lebanon and Jewish communities in the Ottoman Empire and gave a public lecture on pilgrimage practices in early modern Islam. Dr. Simonowitz has three new publications appearing in print this year as well. With his colleagues, Dr. Robert Lloyd and Dr. Carolyn James, Dr. Simonowitz is very happy to announce that the new INTS Middle East Studies and North Africa (MENA) emphasis saw its first graduate and welcomed a new student.

Under the direction of Dr. Graciela Boruszko, Katrina Warme completed the first phase of her international research project, interviewing a number of Sephardic Jews in Buenos Aires, as she was studying in Argentina during the past academic year. This research project is centered on the identity of the Sephardic Jews in the 21st century as they draw from the Spanish, Argentinian, Sephardic and Jewish identities, creating a unique sense of belonging represented in particular identitarian traits.

Dr. Boruszko is working on a larger research project on identities in Spain in the 21st century. Katrina will present her research paper next year at a professional conference and plans to publish it. Katrina and Dr. Boruszko were recipients of the AYURI research grant for Spring 2014. This project stemmed from the recent publication of Dr. Boruszko's book: **A Literary Map of Spain in the 21st century**.

Welcome Dr. Stewart



Dr. Fiona M. Stewart joined ISL in August 2013 as an Assistant Professor and Coordinator of Italian. A graduate of the University of Glasgow, Dr. Stewart's teaching experience has been predominantly in the United States. Her American adventure began in 2007 at the University of Kentucky where she spent a year teaching Italian language and literature. She then spent five years as a Lecturer in Italian at Penn State University. While she learned much at these large state universities that will serve her well in her new role, Dr. Stewart is delighted to be part of a much smaller Christian institution where she can engage in both academic and spiritual mentoring of students.

Dr. Stewart's research focuses on the representation of individual and national Italian memories of World War II. Her doctoral research examined the 'imegno del dopo', or 'obligation of afterwards', in the works and methodology of Nuto Revelli, an oral historian from Piedmont in the north west of Italy. Through Revelli and other Italian writers such as Primo Levi, Dr. Stewart developed an interest in how and why individuals recount personal and national experiences of the twenty-first century. She enjoys incorporating this slant in her teaching of Italian culture, film and literature.

ISL Wishes Dr. Thomason a Happy Retirement

At different times in our lives we cross paths, in whatever shape or fashion, with a person who indelibly makes a difference, who forever changes us for the better. Dr. Phil Thomason was that person in my life, as he was for so many other students who walked through his classroom doors at Pepperdine. As an educator, Dr. Thomason taught me to look beyond the pages of a textbook and think critically for myself about the world around me. As a mentor, Dr. Thomason showed me how to lead by example, and that, in the end, good character rules the day. And as a friend, Dr. Thomason continues to inspire me to approach life's fast-flying pages with genuine gratitude, constant curiosity, and a perpetual passion. Thank you, Dr. Thomason, for your impact in my life, and for embodying the essence of what we so desperately need today: a true teacher. ~ Submitted by Bradley Thomasma, 2009 Seaver Alum

*Thank You
Dr. Thomason!*



Dr. Marshall's SPAN 461 class on "Imagining the Conquest" from Fall 2013 participating in a tour with the Mural Conservancy of Los Angeles.

Dr. Carolyn James spent a month last summer at Oxford University's Bodleian library, including the J. R. R. Tolkien archives, conducting research used to augment her theory course, "The International Relations Middle Earth". This summer she heads to Israel for six weeks. With support from Pepperdine's Glazer Institute, Dr. James will be adding a four-week Jewish studies component to her "Government and Politics of Israel" offered this fall, with a concentration on Jewish and Israeli foreign policy. She continues her research and writing on US-Canadian Arctic security. Dr. James also is the faculty advisor for ISL's *Global Tides* undergraduate research journal and Pepperdine's Model United Nations. Off campus, Dr. James is the conference convener and incoming president of the International Studies Association Western region and sits on the Executive Council of the Association for Canadian Studies in the United States.

CONGRATULATIONS ISL
FULBRIGHT RECIPIENT
COURTNEY STABINGAS



The International Studies and Languages division is the original home to Seaver College's *Global Tides*, an undergraduate research journal that now spans four divisions. This year's editors were Tyler Ditmore, Patrick Rear, Camila Puppato, and Jaclyn Sanchez. The editorial board initiated a new program for this year by organizing the submission and selection process similar to a class on research and editing. They met every week to learn about the basics of copyediting, practice identifying excellent research papers, and read various assignments to prepare them for the rigorous selection process. Dr. Carolyn James, the faculty adviser, guided the entire process after extensively researching the methods used by other undergraduate journals. The selected authors and papers for this year are:

Emily Gibson – "The Right to Choose: Women's Political Activity in Islamic States"

La'Nita Johnson – "The Consequences of Somali Piracy on International Trade"

Lauren Haberstock – "An Analysis of the Effectiveness of the Gacaca Court System in Post-Genocide Rwanda"

~Submitted by student, Tyler Ditmore



NEWS FROM GERMAN STUDIES



Dr. Dowdey’s article “Gering, aber gewaltig!” *Das feste Fundament*, which translates to “Small, but powerful,” was published in 2013. Opponents and critics point out how insignificant the Christian community is worldwide—be it Protestant state churches in Germany with only 4% active membership or other Christian groups. A clear message from Scripture is that God’s presence among us is not measured in worldly might and power.

DEVELOPMENTS IN INTERNATIONAL STUDIES



In November 2013 Robert Lloyd was appointed a Senior Fellow at the Africa Center of the Atlantic Council. This nonpartisan Washington, DC-based think tank “promotes constructive leadership and engagement in international affairs based on the central role of the Atlantic Community.” He also was recently awarded both Core and Specialist Fulbright awards to India to research how a democratic country experiencing terrorism balances the need for security while at the same time protecting civil rights and liberties.

2013-2014 PEPPERDINE MODEL UNITED NATIONS CLUB



Model United Nations (MUN) is a unique Pepperdine club that addresses current world issues and diplomatic objectives that are addressed at United Nations. This club prepares all year to participate in the National Model United Nations Conference in New York City each spring. Each delegation role-plays as an assigned Member State of the United Nations and promotes the policy that is charitable to that state. For the 2013-2014 school year, Pepperdine’s MUN team had the pleasure of representing the Commonwealth of Australia. The Pepperdine Model United Nations club was exposed to a life changing experience, while being located in Times Square, working long hours, with little sleep, with other delegates from around the world and receiving delegation awards in the actual United Nations. This year, our team was awarded seven individual committee Outstanding Position Paper Awards and an entire delegation Honorable Mention Award. ~ Submitted by student, Elizabeth Etter



ISL DIVISION CHAIR

The International Studies and Languages Division is grateful to have been a part of the Class of 2014’s experience at Pepperdine. We wish each of you a lifetime full of learning and adventure. We hope that your studies in ISL have equipped you to better understand and appreciate the incredibly diverse world that our God has created.

May you always be curious and eager to serve. These qualities have blessed us.

The faculty and staff sincerely want our ISL graduates to please keep in touch. We will miss all of you.

Congratulations...Dr. April D. Marshall