A Recent Language Activity

On September 16, Yuriko Ujike hosted an event to celebrate one of Japan’s national holidays called Sports Day, which was created to encourage people to pursue good health. Students who came to the event, the blue team won this year.

Comments by the Chair

Hello to all friends of the Department of International Language and Culture Studies!

I am happy to report that since our last newsletter we have continued to grow as a department. The IPFW Language Institute now includes Arabic, Chinese, and Japanese instruction at the elementary and intermediate levels. Enrollments are strong in these languages and their programs are responsible for a variety of interesting events such as a taiko drums performance, a Chinese Mid-Autumn Festival, a belly dance performance, and many other activities. These programs and their instructors definitely bring a new vitality to our department! Enrollments are also strong in French, German, and Spanish, which has allowed us to hire a new Continuing Lecturer in Spanish, add more German classes to our offerings, and hire Ms. Brigitte Martin as ILCS Language Laboratory Director and Continuing Lecturer in French.

We have also been able to hire a Continuing Lecturer who will be teaching International Studies, Peace and Conflict Studies, and Irish literature. This year we are hosting a Future Faculty Fellow from IU-Bloomington who is teaching an upper-level French linguistics course for us as well as several introductory courses. We are also hosting a Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistant in Arabic. Finally, I am happy to welcome Stephen Buttes, a new assistant professor in Spanish whose area of specialization is literary and visual representations of urban poverty in 20th-century Latin America.

Our department is also stabilizing in its full-time faculty as more of our assistant professors are tenured and promoted to associate professor rank. Ana Benito, Ph.D., Jens Clegg, Ph.D., and Lee Roberts, Ph.D., have all successfully completed the work required to receive tenure and promotion and now will be able to expand their research goals, create new courses, and serve the community, the university, and the profession in many new ways. Congratulations to all three!

Future dreams for our department include the possibility of language immersion camps in the summer, perhaps a major in international studies, a hope that there could one day be separate international language areas in the student residence halls, where groups of students who were studying a particular language could share living space and function in the language even when at home. We are excited about the future and the many opportunities to make international languages and cultures even more central to the IPFW experience.

Please stop by the department office and say hello when you have a chance. If you are an alumni, I am always happy to hear how you are doing.

A bientôt!

Laurie Corbin
Chair, Department of International Language and Culture Studies

International Photo Contest

Winners of the 2011 International Photography Contest were announced in late May. Twenty-nine entrants submitted 63 photos. The winning pictures are on display in Helmke Library and can be viewed online at www.ipfw.edu/intl.
Take a look at the talent of our worldly faculty, staff, and students.

New Faculty

The Department of International Language and Culture Studies (ILCS) was very fortunate to have the opportunity to hire three new continuing lecturers in fall 2010. Farah Combs has taught Arabic at West Point Academy and at Ohio State University. Laura Rodriguez-Duran comes to us from Spain by way of West Virginia and teaches Spanish. Yuriko Ujike teaches Japanese and came to IPFW from Columbia University. In the fall semester, we were also fortunate to hire Stephen Buttes, Ph.D., as associate professor of Spanish. He comes to us from the University of Richmond.

We welcome them to our department and IPFW.

ILCS has been very active with student activities this past year. The Arabic program held an Arabic Immersion Day, during which students enjoyed Middle Eastern food and music. The Japanese program held many cultural events, including a calligraphy workshop, an origami workshop, a Japanese cooking session, and movie events featuring films about Japanese history and culture. The Spanish program had a Spanish Immersion Day where students experienced Spanish food, culture, and language. The Chinese program participated in two activities: the 2011 Chinese Spring Festival Competition—U.S. Midwest Regional Chinese speech contest at Purdue University.
Faculty Accomplishments

Ana Benito had the poems "Mujer número 10," "Lo que tosidos," and "Paseo" published in Grafito, the electronic journal of the Asociación Internacional de Literatura y Cultura Femenina Hispánica.

Benito’s chapter “The Spanish Inquisition and the Creation of the Other” will be part of the forthcoming volume Marginal Voices: Studies in Converseos Voices: Studies in Converseos in Medieval and Renaissance Spain, published by Brill.

She also contributed to the volume Approaches to Teaching the Trousson and One Night, published by the Modern Language Association of America.

Nancy Virtue’s article, “Memory, Trauma, and the French Algerian War: Michael Haneke’s Caché (2005)” was accepted for publication in the journal Modern and Contemporary France.

She spent several weeks in France this summer doing research and presented her paper “Le film de…: L’auto-adaptation dans la version filmique de La Nôtre de… d’Osmane Sembène” at the Congrès du Conseil International d’Études Francophones in Aix-en-Provence, France.

Laurie Corbin’s article entitled “The Voicing of Desire, the Quest for History in Herododóu’s Haunted and The Women of Troy taught” will appear in the journal Calliope, and a book chapter entitled “Imaginate-vous, à me lire, qu’ie suis mon portrait?” will appear in Cherchez la femme: Women and Vérité in the Francophone World. She presented a paper entitled “The Cry in(rows) Ejido’s L’amour, la fantaisie!” at the 25th Congress of Council International d’Études Francophones in Aix-en-Provence, France.

Tatia Bugel co-authored an article titled “Attributes and Representations of Spanish and the Spread of the Language Industries in Brazil” that was published in Language Policy, as well as a book review on the teaching of Spanish in Brazil published in Studies in Hispanic and Lusophone Linguistics. By peer-reviewing colleagues’ journal submissions, she has had the opportunity to read very interesting research coming up in the field of language attitudes—one of her absolute favorites! Bugel's own project about language attitudes on campus is underway, and she has high hopes that all will get involved in it throughout the coming year so she can soon analyze the data and get the picture of our relationship with diversity when it comes in different languages. Her most rewarding teaching experiences include service-learning. Bugel says, “The class of Spanish in Business Introduction to Translation has been an exciting challenge that has brought about professional growth and superb personal relationships with everyone involved—again and again, thank you so very much.”

Sue Roberts began 2010 on maternity leave, due to the birth of her daughter, Lilly. November, Lilly is a year-and-a-half old now and already says about 15–20 German words (many of them are only recognizable to her parents). Her first two words were “ba” for “buch” (book) and “au” for “mein” (meow). Obviously, she inherited her parents’ love for books and cars. What a relief! Professionally, Roberts had a good year; she is working on a book manuscript tentatively entitled Language of Migration: Self- and Other Representations of Korean Migrants in Germany, which is under contract with Peter Lang and scheduled to appear by the end of 2011. She also published an article in the Korean journal Asian Woman on the identity construction of the Korean German women.

The ILCS Language Lab

The ILCS Language Lab has been a busy place since it re-opened in August 2010. We often have a full house, with 12 computers in use and students sitting on the couches and chairs, helping one another with homework, reading books and magazines, playing board games, and speaking various languages. Others watch one of the 92 foreign TV channels available in the lab. Students have been able to check out DVDs and CDs, as well as books, magazines, and reference material, or use them in the lab. Among the activities offered in the lab this academic year were presentations (on culture, grammar, and graduate school), immersion sessions (in Arabic and Spanish), a workshop (origami), an open house for all Fort Wayne students of French, and weekly international movies. All events have attracted good audiences. Most language clubs now meet in the lab (at least once a week) and we have Center for Academic Support and Advancement (CASA) tutors come weekly (at least one per language). Also, the use of the lab by language classes has expanded teaching strategies.

We feel that we’re fulfilling our goal of providing students with significant, stimulating out-of-class experiences. We want to be relevant to all students and find ways to матч their language experience and encourage them to continue with languages.

Student Accomplishments

Notes from Alumni

Emily Butler (2009) finished an M.A. in Spanish at the University of Wisconsin.

Andrea Ritter (2011) has been accepted for graduate study in the Jewish Studies program at the University of Michigan.

The German Heritage Scholarship was awarded to Adam Papp and Stephanie Boissin.

Several of our students spent time abroad this year:

Cari Landregan, Bosco Lo, and Lyndsay Patterson spent the 2010–11 academic year studying French at the Indiana University program in Aix-en-Provence, France, and Erika York at the Institut d’Etudes Politiques in Strasbourg, France.

Valerie Deustch has studied in Chile for the 2010-11 academic year.

The ILCS Language Lab

At the College of Arts & Sciences Honors Banquet in April, the Excellence in Foreign Language Award Winners were announced:

Adam Papp and Kyle Garrison were awarded the Excellence in Foreign Language Award for German; Andrea Ritter and Kristina Karpun were awarded the Excellence in Foreign Language Award for French; Domingo García and Francisco Tapia-Silva were awarded the Excellence in Foreign Language Award for Spanish.

Kiley Miller was awarded the Special Achievement in Foreign Language Award for her work in French.

A Recent Language Activity

On Thursday, September 29th, we had a very successful belly dancing performance. There were 76 students who came to watch the belly dancer and learn how to do Egyptian-style dancing. Students learned the history of the dance, from its origins in the Middle East to how it came to America.