

Department of Language and Cultural Studies

SPRING 2016 NEWSLETTER

EVENTS

February 4 French
Movie Night Series,
7:00, Clark Hall 527.
Series continues on
March 10 and April 14.

February 23 Study
Abroad Application
Deadline

March 7-13 Foreign
Language Week

March 19 UMSL Day

April 15 & 16
Ensemble Español
Spanish Dance at
Touhill Performing
Arts Center

April 17 Bento
Rakugo at Touhill

LANGUAGE GROUPS

China-America Corner
Chinese Language Table
Friends without Borders
Japanese-English
Language Exchange
Kaffeestunden
La Mesa De Español
La Table Française

Notes from the Chair

With the end of spring semester fast approaching, I would like to thank the students, colleagues, alumni, and friends of the Department of Language and Cultural Studies for a very exciting year of growth. As you can tell from the stories in this Spring Newsletter, we have had a rich semester characterized by wide-ranging intercultural activities, several new courses, and full travel itineraries. In March, a record number of students and alumni attended our celebration of the annual

National Foreign Language Week; in January and March, many students traveled to Costa Rica and Japan on faculty-led Study Tours; throughout the year, colleagues traveled to national conferences to present their research and explore the best pedagogical strategies for teaching languages and cultures. We look forward to celebrating our graduates on May 5 at our annual Graduation Reception. This year, the

event will take place from 3:00 to 5:00 pm in room 527 Clark. Please join us on May 5 as we congratulate our graduates and send them on their journeys to global job markets or graduate studies in their fields of choice.

With best wishes for a rewarding summer,

Birgit



Featured Story: Exploring Japan through Kakehashi Program



For nine days in March, twenty-three students, led by two faculty members, went on the Kakehashi program. Taking its name from the Japanese word 'hashi' or 'bridge,' the program is a fully-funded, large-scale youth exchange program between Japan and the United States. Promoted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, Kakehashi aims to promote deeper mutual understanding among the people of Japan and the United States, enable future leaders of Japan-US exchanges to form networks, and help young people develop wider perspectives to encourage their futures as active participants of such global networks. Students visited the cities of Tokyo and Fukuoka, experiencing a wide variety of activities including presentations about Japanese foreign

policy, cooking demonstrations, food tasting, homestays, and visits with Japanese students.

"A special ありがとうございました to Dean Elizabeth Eckelkamp and Dr. Beth Huebner for being our guides and companions on this incredible journey, to Dr. Laura Miller for connecting UMSL with the Kakehashi program, to the Japan International Cooperation Center (JICE) and Eriko Kubota for inviting UMSL students to experience Japan, and to all our professors and advisors who made this trip—and all of our makeup work—possible. It was an unforgettable experience."

—Abby Naumann, UMSL Language student

Foreign Language Week 2016

The department celebrated the annual National Foreign Language Week with record attendance. More than 150 students participated in the activities.

On Monday, activities included a poetry reading by faculty from Language & Cultural Studies, a world cuisine kick-off celebration, a Japanese-English language exchange table, and a Japanese cooking demo of

Okonomiyaki & Onigiri. Tuesday started with a French and German breakfast (Crêpes & Brötchen), followed by a Caribbean folklore dance presentation, Japanese calligraphy, and the German Film "The Wave." A Chinese breakfast was served on Wednesday, followed by a German Kaffeestunde, "a taste of Latin America" for lunch, the

Spanish language table, and the Japanese film "I Was Born But..." Language week ended on Thursday with a Chinese tea ceremony, a panel discussion on study abroad experience, a student production of Latin American theatre ("Decir si"), and the French film "Tous au Larzac." Many thanks to everyone who made this the best Foreign Language Week we have had to date!



Faculty Presentations & Publications

Anne-Sophie Blank led a workshop at the FLAM Regional Conference in Kansas City in October. Her workshop was titled "French Art at the St. Louis Art Museum: A New Learning Resource for Teachers." She presented the website to 30 participants, demonstrated how to create similar projects combining text and images, and advised how to use this resource with K-12 as well as college students.

Rosa Brefeld presented a poster entitled "Reading Novels with English Language Learners to Understand Social Justice Issues" at the 11th Annual Education for Change Conference on February 27, 2016.

Martha Caeiro, Amy Michael, Sandy Trapani, and Violaine White presented "Enhancing Learning with Targeted Technology: Examples from the Language Classroom" at the Focus on

Teaching and Technology Conference on November 15, 2015.

Yan Li presented "Teaching and Learning: Two Faces of a Coin" at the Foreign Language Association of Missouri Annual Conference in October. The presentation was a reflection of her summer teacher training program at the University of Hawaii Manoa, where participants were exposed to two different language instructional methodologies—TBLT (task-based language teaching) and TPRS (teaching proficiency through reading and story-telling).

Denise Mussman published an article in a newsletter for ITA instructors. She wrote on teaching fluency to international graduate teaching assistants. You can find the article here: <http://newsmanager.commpartners.com/tesolita/iss/2016-02-02/5.html>. She also presented at the Foreign Languages

Teachers Association (FLTA) at UMSL on February 27. Her session featured activities for teaching pre-writing and descriptive writing.

Violaine White presented a paper on World War II short stories by Elsa Triolet at the Contemporary French Studies Conference held in St. Louis on March 17, 2016. She will also co-present a research paper on André Breton and collaborative writing at the Colloque de Cerisy in France this coming August.

The **Department of Language and Cultural Studies** hosted the Spring Workshop of the Foreign Language Association of Missouri, Saturday, Feb. 27, 2016 in Clark Hall. Twelve sessions were conducted and forty-five middle-and high schools participated in this very successful workshop.

New Program Announcement: Dual Language Professional Track

To meet the increasing demand for multilingual professionals, the Department of Language and Cultural Studies will now offer students the option of the Dual Language Professional Track as

part of the B.A. in Modern Languages. Students interested in pursuing intermediate studies in more than one language may combine the study of any two of the following languages:

French, German, Japanese, or Spanish. Coursework will focus on developing language proficiency, cultural competency, and professional skills.

New Courses

Foreign Language 4100/5100

Language Theories and Global Issues by Professor Sue Hendrickson. Co-created with Professor Violaine White and made possible by a course-sharing grant.

French 4311/5311 L'Art de la guerre: War in French and Francophone Cultures by Professor Violaine White.

German 3211/4311 Special Topics in German Culture: Sports by Professor Carol Jenkins.

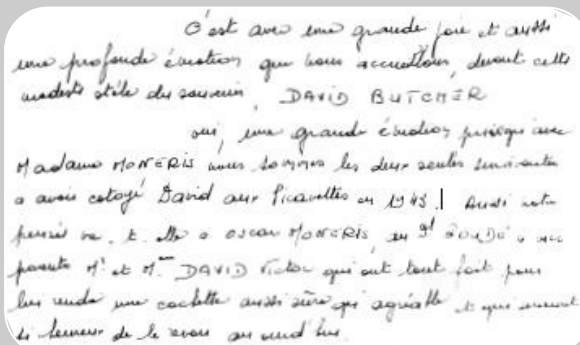
Conversational Hebrew by Professor Shlomit Nehorai.

Spanish 4312 Special Topics in Hispanic Literature—two new topics: “Latino Literature and Film” by Professor Tim Abeln and “Hispanic American Theatre” by Professor Liz Fonseca.

Featured Course: French 4301

Methods of Translation in French and English

This semester, **Anne-Sophie Blank** taught a new course, *French 4301: Methods In Translation In French And English*. Students developed translation skills through grammar exercises, vocabulary building, and translation exercises from French to English and English to French. Students were also responsible for the translation into English of historical documents belonging to the Mercantile Library. These documents described the active role played in 1943, by David Butcher, an airman from Ferguson, MO, in the Resistance Network of Château-du-Loir, France.



C'est avec une grande joie et avec une profonde émotion que nous accueillons, devant cette modestie stèle du souvenir, **DAVID BUTCHER** une, une grande érudite, poète, une Madame HORRIS avec les deux autres hommes à avoir sauvé David aux Pyrénées en 1943. Ici aussi nous pensons à E. et à Oscar HORRIS, au St Raphaël et aux parents d'et d'et **DAVID** Victor qui ont tout fait pour lui rendre une cabane aussi sûre qu'agréable et qui ont tenu la langue de la zone au grand air.

Hebrew 1100

Summer Courses

We are excited to announce our offerings for Summer 2016.

EAP 4302 Language Skills for Academic Success

French 2101 French Language & Culture III

French 2115 Intensive French A, B, & C

German 4311/5311 Kinder und Jugendliteratur

Japanese 1002 Japanese II

Japanese 1011 Anime Nation: Popular Culture in Japan (online)

Japanese 2111 World of Anime: Advanced Topics in Japanese Anime (online)

Spanish 1002 Spanish Language & Culture II

Spanish 2101 Spanish Language & Culture III

Registration for Summer classes starts April 4th.

Student News

Brianne Clemons, International Business major and Spanish minor, was recognized for her work as the marketing manager for the student-planned International Business Career Conference. Read more at UMSL Daily: <http://blogs.umsl.edu/news/2016/03/01/2016>

Lori Avery, army veteran and French minor, is spending the spring semester studying at the Ecole Supérieure des Sciences Commerciales d'Angers, one of the top business schools, in Angers, France.

French major **Amanda Rawls** received a scholarship of \$1,000 from the National Headquarters of Alpha Mu Gamma for her continued studies in a foreign language. Expressing gratitude to the organization as well as the French

faculty at UMSL, Amanda added, "Their encouragement has helped me pursue an international experience this summer that will undoubtedly impact the rest of my life."

Muhidin Abdimalek, French and Biology/Biochemistry major, spent the fall semester studying at the Centre international d'études françaises at the Université Catholique de l'Ouest in Angers, France. He received a \$3000 scholarship from the Alliance Française de St. Louis. When asked about the impact of his study abroad experience, Muhidin said, "You start to realize that American culture is not the only Western culture. Studying in France has helped shape my perspective to a broader, and more importantly, a global one."

Vicky Ferris, Yuri Casas, Melissa Mallon, and Debbie Wright Kempen acted in a Spanish-language theatre performance of Griselda Gambaro's *Decir si* (Say Yes). The play was coordinated by Professor Liz Fonseca and her students in a course on "Theatre in Latin America."



Design by Caitlin Crain

We would love to hear from Alumni!

Please send us your career updates, recent accomplishments, and any other news you want to share. We are working on a "News from Alumni" section for our Fall 2016 newsletter.

DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGE AND CULTURAL STUDIES

University of Missouri—
St. Louis

1 University Blvd.

St. Louis, MO 63121

(314) 516-6242

Email: jkarslake@umsl.edu

<http://www.umsl.edu/divisions/artscience/>

[forlanglit/](http://www.umsl.edu/divisions/artscience/forlanglit/)

Study Abroad

Featured Program: Costa Rica

Fourteen UMSL students spent two weeks in Costa Rica on a program led by Professor Yan Li. To satisfy 3 credit hours of Spanish, the students' activities included language classes, home stay with host families, journaling and, upon return, presenting on their adventures.

Additional study abroad programs featured this Spring and Summer include:

- * Japan Study Tour (May 16-31, 2016) in Tokyo, Nikko, Kyoto, and Nara with Professors Amy Michael and Keiko Ueda.
- * Spanish in Barcelona (June 3-18, 2016) with Professor Baldini.



Faculty-led program to Costa Rica, Winter Intersession 2016.