Thanks once again for the superb efforts of our department administrator, Ms. Kathy Kannengeiser, our Director of the Language Resource Center, Ms. Ellen Andrasick, and to our full-time faculty: Dr. Carbo, Dr. Rudolph, Dr. Wadhra, and Dr. Villamel-Acera. We are grateful too, for the contributions of our part-time faculty, which included Athanasia Biska, Wafa Daoud, Kate Deimling, Ute Hellebuyck, Maria Hoelzi, Yvon Joseph, Diana Kourtides, Lixue Lin, Susan McLoughlin, Keiko Miyajima, Jeannie Miller, Chad Rice, Sandra Riveros, Aliza Sandalon, Silvina Trica-Flores, and Rosetta Urgo. All of our faculty contribute to the flow of events and activities that you have come to expect from the Department: these activities include: the Fall and Spring meetings for the language majors, French and Spanish Club meetings, the Foreign Language Writing Contest (see article below), and the French, Spanish, Italian and International Studies Honor Societies’ induction ceremonies (see article, p. 3).

During the 2009-2010 academic year, we added a new language to our offering – Modern Greek I and II – and two new full-time tenure-track faculty members: Dr. Nicole Rudolph in French and Dr. Rakhel Villamil-Acera in Spanish. Dr. Rudolph holds a Ph.D. in French Studies from New York University. She also received a joint D.E.A. from the Ecole Normale Supérieure /Ecole des Hautes Etudes (Paris). Her research interests include 20th century French cultural and social history, the history of women and feminism in France and the history of French domestic architecture and urbanism.

(cont’d on page 2).

Author, Author! Writing Contest Winners Spring 2010

We have been very fortunate that our wonderful Languages Department alumni continue to respond to our request for support of the annual writing contest. Once again this year your contributions have allowed us to award 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners. Our goal is to secure an endowment in order to offer the awards in perpetuity. We thank our alumni for their support!

This year, the following students won awards in our Creative Writing Contest: In French, Marie Tamara Jean-François won 1st place for her poem, "Hâïti, terre vénérée". In Italian, 1st place went to Alessandra Thornton for "Una Persona Nuova". Carmela Gandolfo ("Il Mio Paradiso") and Crista Adduci ("Siamo Umani") took second place, while 3rd place was shared by Allana Rupnarine ("Amore") (cont’d on page 2).
Greetings from the Chair (cont’d)

Linked to her research, her teaching specialization is contemporary French civilization and culture and the history of modern France.

In the Spanish program, Dr. Rakhel Villamil-Acera holds her Ph.D. from the University of California at Berkeley. Her specialization is Pedagogy of Spanish as a Second Language with particular attention to the teaching of Stylistics and Linguistics, and the development of teaching materials. Her teaching interests include: Hispanic Linguistics; History of the Spanish Language; Synchro-chronic and Diachronic Perspectives, Modern Dialectology, Phonetics and Phonology; and the Politics of Language in the Spanish-Speaking World.

Please come to the Languages meetings to meet them or simply stop by their offices during office hours. You can also read their respective faculty profiles on the Adelphi Web site to see all they have accomplished this year on campus.

We have further added to our department by hiring a new full-time Lecturer in Italian; we are delighted to welcome Jonathan Hiller to Adelphi in Fall 2010. Dr. Hiller holds the Ph.D. from UCLA in Italian, and literature, music and culture of the 19th century. Behind these recent hires lie an exciting and newly instituted (Fall 2009) four-semester language requirement for students seeking a Bachelor’s of Arts degree.

In closing, I wish to convey my enthusiasm for the Department of Languages and the International Studies Program and their future growth and success. I look forward to seeing you at our Fall 2010 events.

Adelphi Students Garner Prix, Premios, and Premi

The Department of Languages and International Studies Awards Ceremony took place on April 23, 2010. The students inducted into the national honors societies and receiving departmental honors and awards are:

In Italian: for the Italian Honor Society (Gamma Kappa Alpha) Lisamarie Calandra, Carmela Gandolfo, Maurizio Llin and for the Italian Book Awards: Crista Aduci, Lisamarie Calandra, Carmela Gandolfo, Stephanie Schmidt, Nicole Smolenski, Alessandra Thornton

In French: Anca Constantin and Veronika Yosifova were co-winners of all of the French program honors: the Lucienne Petit Prize, Paul Langellier Achievement Award in French, and Departmental Honors in French.

In Spanish: for Spanish Honor Society (Sigma Delta Pi): Heather Crosley, Dina Kostas, Maria Lovissi, Svetla Marinova, Ivan Palov, Deanna Sequeira, Rakhel Villamil-Acera; for the Ruth Richardson Award for Excellence in Spanish: Heather Crosley, Maria Lovissi, Svetla Marinova, Ivan Palov; for the Dolores Roethel Award in Spanish Literature: Dina Kostas, Maria Lovissi, and for Departmental Honors in Spanish: Dina Kostas, Maria Lovissi, and for the Special Award for Minors in Spanish: Sarah Hahl, Michelle Montgoris, Kristiane Valenza. Congratulations to all for their superb work!

Writing Contest Winners Spring 2010 (cont’d)

and Jennifer Scully (“Che vedeli in me?”). Spanish student Courtney DeRosa secured 1st place for her ”La increíble fuerza de un padre”, while Breann Ross’s “Cuando era niña” landed her the 2nd place award. Finally, Natalie Andrade (“Una visión nublada”) and Chris Hoffmann (“Algunas reflexiones sobre mi perro”) shared 3rd place for their contributions.

¡Felicidades, félicitations, and congratulazioni!
Laurels for our Hellenists!

Professor Biska, our professor of Greek, reports that the Hellenic Society won the "Educational Event of the Year" award for their event “A Taste of Greece” at Adelphi’s Brown & Gold banquet!

“At this event,” she notes, “students presented videos and photographs from Greece, showing Greece’s contribution to the western civilization and the importance of restoring Greek values in our daily lives. The walls of the hall were decorated with posters, while images from Greece were being projected, using material which was provided by the head of the GNTO (Greek National Tourism Organization) in the US, Mr. Chrysanthos Petsilas.

The event was attended by the President of World Council of Hellenes Abroad (SAE) Education Committee, Ms. Stella Kokolis, and all of the guests had the opportunity to taste Greek delights and enjoy Greek music. Dimitris Monias was the DJ for the evening.

Student Aris Kourkoumelis analyzed the myth of Plato’s Cave, concluding with a reference to Socrates on the need for man to examine life and live as a decent and brave walker. Melina Giakoumis presented her experience through her participation in Dr. Anagnostis Angelarakis’ excavations in Eleftherna of Crete. Katerina Pougiouklides made reference to the importance of Greek mythology and Panayiotis Lafatzis on the visions, the future and activities of the Society.

The students enthralled the audience and especially their parents. The well-known entrepreneur Mr. Kourkoumelis, overwhelmed by the presentations of the students, suggested the organization of joint events among neighboring Greek Student Associations.

“At such times, we see the justification of our efforts.

These children deserve every form of support and encouragement to pursue similar initiatives,” observed Mr. Kourkoumelis.

Summer Hours.

The Tournées Festival, cosponsored by the Department of Languages and International Studies and the Honors College, is made possible by a grant from the French-American Cultural Exchange and enjoys the support of the Cultural Services of the French Embassy and the French Ministry of Culture.

The films will be screened throughout the month of November; please check our departmental website in October for more information on dates and times.

Save the Date for French Cinema at Adelphi
Les échanges transatlantiques

by Marine Jupin, French Exchange Student


Au cours du deuxième semestre, j’ai eu la joie de venir partager le cours de traduction français-anglais de Madame Rudolph avec les étudiants américains. C’était la première fois que je travaillais des cours franco-américains.


Si vous aimez les différentes cultures françaises et américaines et aimez le contact, je vous recommande ce cours.

J’ai énormément appris et partagé.
Adelphi in Madrid: Summer 2011

Do you want to study Spanish III or Spanish IV in Madrid next summer?

The Department of Languages and International Studies is excited to offer Adelphi in Madrid: Spanish III and Adelphi in Madrid: Spanish IV during summer 2011. Each of these 3-credit courses combine 70 hours of language and culture instruction with guided visits to stunning cities, world-renowned museums and monuments.

This full-immersion study-abroad program will run for nearly four weeks running from May 27 to June 19, 2011.

From Monday to Friday students will take 3 hours of language and culture classe at level III or IV at Don Quijote Spanish School, sharing classrooms with students from all around the world with a maximum of 8 students per class. Then, they will take a 2-hour writing class at level III or IV with Rakhel Villamil-Acera, assistant professor of Spanish at Adelphi. Students will live with Spanish families, taking an active part in the everyday life of Madrid while immersing themselves in the culture. Speaking and listening to native speakers every day makes the process of learning Spanish easier and quicker as well as more inspirational and incredibly fun!

Students will attend a flamenco show with a traditional Spanish dinner, will visit the Real Madrid’s soccer stadium, and will enjoy relaxed conversations in tapas bars and cafes, leisurely strolls and exciting street life.

The Present of - and Your Future in - Spanish

When you speak Spanish you can communicate with almost 500 million people worldwide! Think how many more employment options that gives you! And if you want to take a trip to Spain or Latin America, a little knowledge of Spanish will go a long way.

Spanish in Numbers:
1. Spanish is the world’s third most spoken language after Mandarin Chinese and English, and ranks second in terms of native speakers.
2. At the end of the 19th century, 60 million people were Spanish speakers. Today, nearly 500 million people across the world speak Spanish!
3. Spanish is the mother tongue of approximately 350 million people in 21 countries, and is widely spoken in another 21 countries where it is not an official language.
4. Latin American countries are experiencing strong economic growth and becoming important global commercial partners. Mercosur and the existing free trade agreements between South American nations and North America (ALADI, CACM, NAFTA, and G3) have brought growth to Latin American economies.

So, enroll in — or keep pursuing your — Spanish studies today. It’s clearly a great investment for your future.

The Economics of Spanish
1. 29 million US residents above the age of 5 speak Spanish at home. That’s approximately 1 of every 10 US residents.
2. The US Hispanic population has grown by 60% in just one decade. The buying power of US Hispanics is expected to exceed $926 million.
3. The dramatic growth in the Spanish language and Spanish speaking populations has sparked worldwide demand for Spanish-language radio, newspapers, and other media.
4. Latin American countries are experiencing strong economic growth and becoming important global commercial partners. Mercosur and the existing free trade agreements between South American nations and North America (ALADI, CACM, NAFTA, and G3) have brought growth to Latin American economies.

(Article adapted from “Why Study Spanish,” http://www.donquijote.org/english/whyspanish.asp)