



Greetings from the Chair

As chair, it is my pleasure to extend my greetings and send greetings and thank you for your continued interest in the activities and goings-on of the Department of Languages, Literatures and Cultures at Adelphi.

There was much to celebrate in 2016 and the early parts of 2017.

We began the summer of 2016 with a very well-attended alumni reunion, bringing together former students from at least five decades of Adelphi's languages program. The faculty presented our research projects, the alumni shared

their fascinating career and life stories with us, and in all the event was a great success. We look forward to organizing similar events in the future.

Dr. Rudolph was granted a sabbatical during the fall 2016 semester, during which time she worked on her new book project. Dr. Wadhwa's book on Perec and Warhol was published in fall 2016, and Dr. Hiller has submitted the manuscript for his translation into English of a full-length novel, to appear later this year.

We conducted two successful searches in Spanish,

one for an Assistant Professor and another for a Lecturer position. Dr. Ana Simón-Alegre and Dr. Sara Aponte-Olivieri, two outstanding candidates, have been hired, and will join us in the Fall of 2017 pending final approval by the Board of Trustees.

The Certificate of Translation program graduated its second cohort of students, 10 in total, and 10 new students started the program in fall 2016. On the subject of translation, we are very proud to inform you that Adelphi Languages alumnus Collin Savage has been accepted at New York

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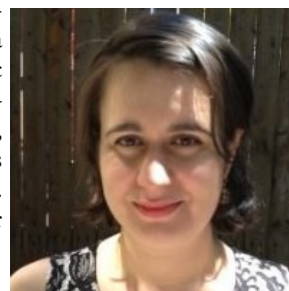
Spanish Program Grows with Appointments of Simón-Alegre, Aponte-Olivieri



Dr. Simón-Alegre

We are very happy to share the news that our department has successfully completed two searches for full-time faculty in Spanish. Following last year's departure of Professor Rakhel Villamil-Acera (to whom we wish all the best in her new position), we end the academic year with one more full-time Spanish faculty than when we began. Pending final approval from the Board of Trustees, it is our distinct pleasure to welcome Dr. Ana Simón-Alegre into our department as an Assistant Professor, and Dr. Sara Aponte-Olivieri as a Lecturer. Both have sterling academic credentials, impressive publication records, fascinating research backgrounds, and are capable, passionate instructors of Spanish Language and Hispanic Culture.

Please join us in welcoming these two exceptional women into our department!



Dr. Aponte-Olivieri

French Minor to Teach English in France

We are thrilled to share that French minor Daniella Volaric has been accepted to the Teaching Assistant Program in France, managed by the Centre international d'études pédagogiques (CIEP, an agency of the French Ministry of Education) for the 2017-2018 academic year.

This makes a total of 6 French students in the past 5 years to win nationally competitive awards: three TAPIF winners (including Collin Savage last summer), 1 Fulbright, and 1 winner of the Société des Professeurs Français et Francophones d'Amérique summer study abroad scholarship.

Adelphi and the French Program at Adelphi are making a difference in these students' lives, but they are also contributing to raising Adelphi's profile, especially in Franco-American circles. Just like the University, the French program is, to echo President Riordan's words, "small but scrappy." (Or "petit mais fougueux")

Please join us in congratulating Daniella, who has made the department very proud!



Daniella Volaric

Greetings from the Chair (cont'd) and Departmental News

(greetings, cont'd from p. 1)

University's Master's in Translation program!

We also now have a new location and hub that we can call our own: Alumnae Hall is our new home, and we are extremely happy to be in this lovely building. Please come and visit us and enjoy our resource room and new facilities!

On a sad note, Dr. Rakhel Villamil-Acera accepted a position at University of San Francisco, and Ms. Ellen Andrasick left for a position in the Registrar's Office. We wish them the best in their new journeys.

As you know, we love to hear from our students and alumni. Please send your updates to jhillier@adelphi.edu, look for us in our Blog, *The Language Lounge* and join us on Facebook!

I would also like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to **Ms. Carmen Castellón**, our dedicated administrative assistant, for supporting us and tending to every detail!

On behalf of our faculty, staff and students, I wish you a wonderful second half of 2017 and hope you will stay connected with us.

Sincerely,

Raysa

Raysa Amador
Chair, DLIC

Departmental News

We would now like to share some of the recent highlights of the department's varied activities including faculty research, student achievements, study abroad programs and exciting curriculum developments.

Faculty Spotlight

In 2016-2017, **Dr. Nicolas Carbo** taught courses in **Hispanic Literature**, **Peninsular Spanish Literature**, **Spanish Grammar and Composition**, **Trends And Tendencies In Hispanic America**, and **Spanish Conversation**. He continues to serve us faithfully on the Unit Peer Review Committee and he was instrumental in helping to select our new faculty in Spanish.

Dr. Jonathan Hiller has submitted the final manuscript for publication of his translation of I. U. Tarchetti's 1866 Gothic novel, *Paolina: Mysteries of the Figini Lodge* (Wellesley, MA, Dante University Press). He presented research on *Paolina* and two other works of Italian literature from the mid-1800s at a conference at the University of Toronto entitled "Gastronomy and the Arts: An Exchange of Epic Portions," and a peer-reviewed article based on that presentation will appear in the conference's published proceedings this year. He also published two book reviews and presented research on the novelist Luigi Capuana at the American Association for Teachers of Italian annual conference in Columbus, OH in

April, 2017. Beyond the publication of his translation of *Paolina*, he has raised his profile in the local translation community, joining the ranks of the New York Unified Court System's Interpreter Service and joining both the New York Circle of Translators and the American Literary Translators Association.

In 2016, **Dr. Nicole Rudolph** was part of the Adelphi AAUP's Negotiating Team, helping to secure a new contract for Adelphi faculty beginning September 1, 2016. While on sabbatical during the fall of 2016, Prof. Rudolph gave a talk in October at the Maison Française of New York University; the talk was based on her book, *At Home in Postwar France: Modern Mass Housing and the Right to Comfort* (Oxford/New York: Berghahn Books). She is a regular participant in the New York French History Group seminar and this year joined the Editorial Board of *French Politics, Culture and Society*. In June, she will travel to London to deliver a paper at the Courtauld Institute of Art's symposium on "Fantasy in Reality: Architecture, Representation, Reproduction." As faculty co-chair of the International Leadership Coordinating Committee, Prof. Rudolph spearheaded an internationalization audit of the University in the Spring of 2017, focusing on evaluating Adelphi's global and international engagement via programming, research, and curricula.

Dr. Priya Wadhera's first book was just released in the prestigious *Faux Titres*

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Scholarship Opportunities

The **Marie-Louise Pesselier Vazquez Scholarships for French Majors** were generously created by a devoted professor in honor of her time teaching French at Adelphi. All 2nd-, 3rd-, and 4th-year French majors will be considered. Scholarships are awarded based upon GPA.

The **Robert G. Hartmann Scholarship for Excellence in Spanish** has been available to students since Academic Year 2014-2015. Students must be Spanish majors who have completed 30 credits in

the major, have demonstrated significant financial need, have at least a 2.7 GPA.

We also are fortunate to offer the **Melvin and Marian Prottas Foreign Language Writing Awards**, open to French, Italian, Spanish, and Translation students, who can win cash prizes for their contributions in any of the four above categories.

The **Smalley Family Endowment for Italian Language Studies**, created by Trustee Patrick Smalley is available for

Italian minors/Italian track IS students, who must have a 3.0 minimum GPA.

Lastly, the **Ted and Erika Spyropoulos Foundation Scholarship for Modern Greek Studies** offers scholarships to one student who has completed Level 1 and is continuing to Level 2 of Greek, and another to a student who has completed Level 3 Greek and plans to continue with Level 4. Minimum GPA 3.25 in Greek, 3.0 overall.

Language Students Win Entry into National Honor Societies and Awards

On Friday, April 29, 2016, we held our Departmental Honors Ceremony. We were very honored by the presence of the University President, Christine M. Riordan. The ceremony was opened with a wonderful performance on the lute by student Ryan Closs. Language tutors Hira Javed and Sean Gaynor sang a song together, and Dr. Amador opened the ceremony after which the President spoke. The following students were inducted into honor societies:

Italian Honor Society, Gamma Kappa Alpha: Matthew Bellomo (*inducted by Prof. Hiller*)

Spanish Honor Society, Sigma Delta Pi: Joann Bonilla, Alicia I. Cañas, Paloma M. Casteleiro, Kyle R. Cropsey, Marianna Ferraro, Jessenia Gonzalez, Hira Javed, Alicia Legland, Nicholette C. Lewis, Collin G. Savage (*inducted by Profs. Amador, Carbo & Villamil-Acera*)

Scholarships were awarded to the following outstanding students:

Smalley Fellowship in Italian Studies: Mariella di Leo

Mary Louise Vazquez Scholarship in French: Zouheir Bekdache

The Robert Hartmann Scholarship for Excellence in Spanish: Arianna Thomas

The Ted and Erika Spyropoulos Foundation Scholarship for Modern

Greek: Christina Korsanos, Rebecca Fakas

We were also delighted to present awards to several outstanding students:

Lucienne Petit Prize & Paul Langelier Achievement Award in French: Sean P. Gaynor

Ruth Richardson Awards for Excellence in Spanish: Joann Bonilla, Alicia I. Cañas, Paloma M. Casteleiro, Kyle R. Cropsey, Marianna Ferraro, Jessenia Gonzalez, Hira Javed, Alicia Legland, Nicholette C. Lewis, Collin G. Savage, Monica Velasquez

Dolores Roethel Awards in Spanish Literature: Joann Bonilla, Collin G. Savage

Protas French Writing Contest :
1st: Benjamin Nichols; 2nd: Arianna Thomas; 3rd: Arianna Thomas

Protas Spanish Writing Contest:
1st: Denise Borrás Trepát 2nd: Denise Borrás Trepát; 3rd: Veronica Grebe

Protas Translation Writing Contest:
1st: Declan J. Hart

We continued a tradition with a new vocal performance in a new language (this year French) at the ceremony by our own Professor Hiller on the piano. He sang Fauré's "Lydia".



Our French Faculty with Distinguished French Students



Hira Javed with President Riordan



Outstanding students in Spanish with Prof. Amador

Other Cultural Events

We would like to share just a few of the highlights of activities on campus which we sponsored or which we participated since our last newsletter.

The following is a partial list which shows the breadth of these activities and our visible profile on campus:

- Italian, Spanish and French language lunches, ongoing
- Spanish Film Festival, 2016-2017
- Skype with Mexican scholar Carla Ulloa on Gabriela Mistral, Nobel laureate in

1945, led by Prof. Simón-Alegre, February 2017

- Italian film night led by Prof. Hiller, Spring 2017
- Students from Dr. Amador's and Dr. Simón-Alegre's classes visited the Cuba exhibition at the Museum of Natural History and went to Repertorio Español Theater to see the play *In the Name of Salomé*
- International Week events, Fall 2016
- In October, 2016, the Japanese program organized a well-attended event involv-

ing traditional *Rakugo* storytelling and a lesson in calligraphy.

- In November, 2016, the department organized an excursion to the Morgan Library in Manhattan, followed by a visit to the Society of the Americas to see an exhibit on Mexican photographer Kati Horna.
- Professor He of the Chinese program organized an outing to Flushing, Queens' Chinatown in March, 2017

Departmental News (cont'd)

Faculty Spotlight" (cont'd from page 2)

series by Brill | Rodopi: *Original Copies in Georges Perec and Andy Warhol* is the first work to draw parallels between Perec, a celebrated figure in twentieth-century French literature, and Warhol, the American Pop artist.

Dr. Wadhera has two more book projects that she will be working on during her upcoming year-long sabbatical. These projects have informed her recent scholarship. In the summer of 2016, she spoke at the Modern Language Association's first-ever International Symposium in Düsseldorf, Germany. In the fall, she presented at the 42nd Annual Nineteenth-Century French Studies Colloquium hosted by Brown University. This spring she gave a paper at the 20th- and 21st-Century French and Francophone Studies International Colloquium, hosted by the University of Indiana in Bloomington. In the coming months, she will speak at the American Comparative Literature Association's Annual Convention in Utrecht in the Netherlands and at a conference in the south of France co-hosted by the Sorbonne. Forthcoming are a peer-reviewed article called "Manger chez Perec: Food on the Threshold between Metaphor and Matter," in *Contemporary French and Francophone Studies* and a translation of an article by Surrealist Georges Limbour in an edited volume on Dubuffet from MIT Press.

Dr. Wadhera also serves her profession on a national level as the Representative to the Delegate Assembly for Division on 20th- and 21st-Century French Literature at the *Modern Language Association Annual Convention*, held this year in Philadelphia, where she discusses, debates, and votes on matters of relevance to the entire constituency.

Our chair, **Dr. Raysa Amador**, has a textbook project under review at Cambridge University Press entitled *Así es la vida*. She served as a reader for the Ph.D. dissertation "The Experience of Pregnant Adolescence Living in a Group Home" for College of Nursing and Public Health student Mary Ellen LaSala in April, 2017. Lastly, she organized the Spanish Film Festival Series at Adelphi in conjunction with Prof. Simón-Alegre. The depart-

ment put this festival on through a grant from Pragda, the Secretary of State for Culture of Spain, and its Program for Cultural Cooperation with United States Universities.

Dr. Amador has assumed the French, Italian and Spanish Placement Exam coordinating responsibilities as of Spring 2016. She coordinates the Online tutorial services, supervising students hired through the prestigious Hire a Panther program.

We wish to acknowledge the hard work of all our adjunct faculty who do fantastic work for us!

Together, the faculty of the DLLC continue to contribute to the success of the now fully launched Certificate in Translation.

Student Updates, Memories, News

It is now our pleasure to share a few thoughts and memories that some of our students have sent along to us, some from our current crop of excellent students, some students from years past. We hope you find them as compelling as we did!

We are pleased to announce that **Jessenia Gonzalez'** abstract submission, "Joaquin Sorolla, the man who showed America the real Spain," and **Collin Savage's** abstract "Txakoli in the Basque Country," were selected for presentation at the 30th Anniversary National Conference on Undergraduate Research at the University of North Carolina, Asheville in 2016.

This year, two of Prof. Simon-Alegre's students were selected to participate in the 31st edition of the National Conference on Undergraduate Research, at the University of Memphis, on April 6-9th. They are **Giovanna Galante**, with her project "Linguistic relativity hypothesis and the study of bilingualism," and **Pedro Izquierdo**, with his project "The Failed Anti-corruption policies of Enrique Peña Nieto."

We are also very happy to report that **Collin Savage** (see above), who graduated last year, has been accepted into the prestigious Master's in Translation Studies program at New York University, where he will begin next term. We wish him all the best in his continued studies in languages!

From Ashley Vasquez, B.A. '09, on the career opportunities that studying Spanish offered her:

I was a student in the General Studies Learning Community Program in 2009. As an undergraduate student at Adelphi, I was a Psychology major and a Spanish minor. I graduated with a Bachelors Degree in Psychology in May 2013 and then went on to graduate with Masters Degree in Mental Health Counseling (also from Adelphi) in May 2015. Two months after graduating with a Masters Degree, I was able to obtain a job as a Bilingual Therapist at the New York Psychotherapy and Counseling Center (Bushwick Child and Family Mental Health Center) located in Bushwick, Brooklyn. After working there for a year, I was offered a position as a counselor in the General Studies Learning Community Program, which is where I am now. My office is located in the Science Building, room 304.

¡Que siga adelante!

If you have a moment, feel free drop an us e-mail at amador@adelphi.edu and let us know what you would like to read in future issues. As always, visit our website, languages.adelphi.edu for more information, or stop by for a visit at Alumane Hall 110.



Chinese Students in Flushing

Languages of Memory: Photos from Former Department Chair Dr. Ebersole, and Images from Our Alumni Reunion

A Colleague to Remember

We have unearthed some photos from over fifty years ago of one of our Spanish faculty leaders from the 1960s, Dr. Alva Ebersole. Please enjoy them and let us know if you the photos bring up any memories for you!



Adelphi - April, 1964. Left to right: Mrs. Ebersole, Dr. Ruth Richardson, Dr. Alva Ebersole, in the rear Dr. James Stais This was taken at a cast party after the Spanish Department's play



Valencia - March, 1987 - Julieta (Mrs. Ebersole's childhood friend), Mrs. Ebersole, Dr. Ebersole, and alumna Lyn Mendelsohn



Tucson, December, 1992 Dr. Ebersole, his son, Ms. Lyn Mendelsohn, and her husband

Our Alumni Reunion, June 4, 2017

Here are some photos of our wonderful alumni reunion from last June. One of our benefactors, Dr. Robert Hartmann, had this to say on the occasion: "I just wanted to tell you how much we enjoyed the reunion today and to complement you and your associates on a job beautifully done. It is always a pleasure for me personally to visit the campus, but this occasion was very special indeed."



Prof. Miller and Carbo reconnect with William Teran '82.



The Entire Group!

**DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGES,
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Check us out on Facebook!

facebook.com/languagesatadelphi/



*Italian students attended the Student Association's
"Ciao Italia" night to celebrate Italian culture*

Addressee

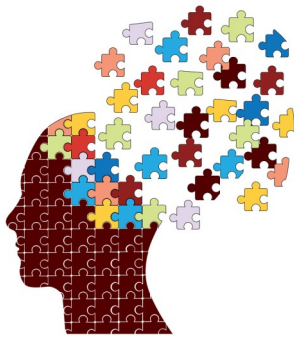
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Food for Thought

An excerpt from *USA Today*, November 6, 2013. "Speaking more than one language may delay dementia" by Kim Painter



THE latest evidence that speaking more than one language is a very good thing for our brains comes from a study finding dementia develops years later in bilingual people than in people who speak just one language.

The study, conducted in India and published Wednesday in the journal *Neurology*, is not the first to reach this conclusion. But it is the largest and comes with an intriguing new detail: The finding held up even in illiterate people — meaning that the possible effect is not explained by formal education.

Instead, the researchers say, there's something special about switching from one language to another in the course of routine communication — something that helps explain why bilingual people in the study developed dementia five years later than other people did. When illiterate people were compared with other illiterate people, those who could speak more than one language developed dementia six years later....

We know from other studies that mental activity has a certain protective effect," says co-author Thomas Bak, a neurologist at the University of Edinburgh, Scotland. "Bilingualism combines a lot of different mental activities. You have to switch sounds, concepts, grammatical structures, cultural concepts. It stimulates your brain all the time."

For the study, Bak and colleagues in India reviewed medical records of 648 people with dementia who were seen in a clinic in the city of Hyderabad.

More than half of the people diagnosed with dementia at the clinic were bilingual or multilingual. But the researchers found those people had developed their first symptoms, such as memory loss and confusion, at an average age of 65.6 — five years later than the average of 61.1 for people who spoke just one language. The differences were seen in several types of dementia, including Alzheimer's disease, vascular dementia (associated with poor blood flow to the brain) and frontotemporal dementia (caused by degeneration of the brain's frontal or temporal lobes).

(Source: <https://www.usatoday.com/story/tech/2013/11/06/language-bilingual-dementia/3452549/>)