

# MCLL News

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Modern & Classical Languages & Literatures

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Russian Club Picnic Spring 2016

Photo courtesy Ona Renner-Fahey

## The Chairs

**Elizabeth Ametsbichler and Jannine**

**Montauban, co-chairs:** Once again, the academic year has flown by and it is time to say goodbye to our graduating seniors and wish them *alles Gute* and *lo mejor* for the future. We hope that they will stay in touch with us by liking our Facebook page and by sharing their accomplishments with us. We would also like to thank MCLL faculty members for all of their hard work this past year. We wish everyone a restful, but productive summer.

Please find the news about the various language sections below. Enjoy!

It is also time to say goodbye to our visiting teaching assistants. This year, our Austrian Fulbright T.A.s were **Judith Hinterberger** and **Georg Wieger** who taught first-year German and our Toulouse Exchange was **Philippe Fournier-Murphy** who taught first-year French. Students and faculty really appreciate their dedication to and enthusiasm in teaching our first-year program.

We would like to thank **Janice Kanemitsu** for teaching various levels of Japanese language and literature this past year as a Visiting Adjunct Assistant Professor. We wish her the best in her future endeavors.

Congratulations to **Khaled Huthaily** who was promoted to Associate Professor in Arabic.

This semester, **Marty Marko** (German) is on sabbatical and **Rob Tuck** (Japanese) is on research leave. **Benedicte Boisseron** (French) is finishing her year-long sabbatical. Best wishes to these colleagues as they finish their projects. We look forward to seeing them back in the department next fall.

Our annual FL Day took place March 4 and was once again a big success with around 400 high school students visiting our classes and special presentations. Thank you to **Brock Tessman**, the new dean of the Davidson Honors College, who was the keynote speaker for the luncheon.

Other news in MCLL includes establishing a new minor in European Studies, which Ione Crummy (French) and Matt Semanoff (Classics) helped move through the channels of ASCRC. Faculty Senate also passed the change of five to four credits for our first-year classes in French, German, Italian, and Russian. This follows a national trend and will help students with fulfilling the General Education Language Requirement. In addition, first-year Latin and Greek will be offered for three credits.



It was with great sorrow that we said goodbye to our dear friend and colleague **Eduardo Chirinos, Professor of Spanish**, who

died on February 17<sup>th</sup>. He is irreplaceable and his passing leaves a huge hole in our hearts and in the department. His widow, **Jannine Montauban** is working on eighteen volumes of his work that will be published posthumously and are currently at various stages of the publishing process. RIP.



Excerpt of Eduardo's poem *Palabras del amante desvelado* at a public park in Peru. Photo courtesy Matthew Semanoff

## Arabic

**Khaled Huthaily, Assistant Professor**, has received an NSA grant via the STARTALK program for the amount of \$87,784 to support the offering of intensive Arabic language courses to high school students from June 20th to July 8th. Twenty-five students will develop and improve their Arabic language skills and cultural knowledge in a fun and academic environment. Students learn how to enable and use Arabic (a right-to-left language) on their computers, iPads and smartphones. The grant covers the cost of tuition and instruction materials. More information is available on the MCLL website.

## Classics

**Barbara Weinlich, Visiting Associate Professor**, published the article, "Re-Calling Rome: Propertius' Elegy 3.22" in *Materiali e discussioni per l'analisi dei testi classici* (MD) 75 (2016): 49-77, and she presented a paper titled "Vergil's Pessimism: A Reappraisal of the Harvard School and Augustan Poetry" at the annual meeting of the (national) Society for Classical Studies (SCS) at San Francisco, CA, January 6-9. Serving now in her third year as Chair of the Committee for the Promotion of Latin (CPL), a committee of the (national) Classical Association of the Middle West and South (CAMWS), she organized a panel, "New Trends, New Challenges: Teaching Latin in Secondary School upon Earning an M.A. or Ph.D." for the annual meeting at Williamsburg, VA, March 16-19. She also organized outreach activities to the Latin program at Hellgate High School and revived, at the request of her students, the Classics Club at the University of Montana.

## French

**Mladen Kozul, Associate Professor's** *Les Lumières imaginaires: Holbach et la traduction* (Oxford: Voltaire Foundation, 2016. 294 pp.) recently appeared. He also presented the paper "Casanova and the undifferentiated body" at the International Conference Casanova: libertine legend, held at University of California, Los Angeles, January 22 – 23, 2016. He received a Faculty Development Grant from UM to bring Professor Dominic Thomas, who is chair of French and Francophone Studies at UCLA, to campus to give the keynote speech at the 14th Annual Central & Southwest Asian Studies International Conference held on March 23-25. Thomas also participated in the round table on the "Western Europe and Immigration Crisis," chaired by Kozul.

## German

**Hiltrud Arens, Professor**, recently had an article titled "'So frech möchte ich auch sein' – Brazen Women in Robert Cohen's *Exil der frechen Frauen*" published in *Exile and Gender I: Yearbook of the Research Centre for German and Austrian Exile Studies* 17 (Leiden/Boston: Brill & Rodopi, 2016: 146-60). She will present "On the 'Northpole of Dreams' in Yoko Tawada's *Etüden im Schnee*" at the MLA International Symposium at the Heinrich Heine Universität, Düsseldorf, June 23-25.

The German Section's Outstanding Senior is **Alex Porter**.

## Italian

We are happy to announce that we will again offer first-year Italian as of fall 2016. We have been approved to host a Fulbright Teaching Assistant who will instruct 101 and 102.

## Japanese

**Brian Dowdle, Assistant Professor**, published the article, "Why Saikaku Was Memorable but Bakin Was Unforgettable" in *The Journal of Japanese Studies* 42.1 (2016):91-121. His review of Timon Screech's monograph *Obtaining Images: Art, Production and Display in Contemporary Japan* appeared in *Japan Review* 28 (2015): 244-45. Brian was also elected to the

Association of Asian Studies Council on Conferences as the representative of the Western Conference of the Association for Asian Studies.

**Janice Shizue Kanemitsu, Adjunct Assistant Professor**, published a book chapter, "Puppet theater: from early jōruri to the golden age," in February in *The Cambridge History of Japanese Literature*. Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 2015. 437-46.

**Judith Rabinovitch, Karashima Professor Emerita**, has completed with Tim Bradstock a book manuscript on Heian poetry composed by Japanese courtiers in Chinese. Judith was recently invited to Kyushu University in Fukuoka, where she will serve for six months as Special Project Professor, starting September 1, 2016.

**Rob Tuck, Assistant Professor**, published a journal article, "All Men Within the Four Seas are Brothers: Transnational Kanshi Exchange in Meiji Japan" in *Sino-Japanese Studies* 22 (2015): 28-70, as well as a review of Rosina Buckland's book *Painting Nature for the Nation: Taki Katei and the Challenges to Sinophile Culture in the Japan Review* 28 (2015): 241-43. He was also invited to speak at UC Berkeley in February 2016 as part of the symposium "The Poetics of Friendship in East Asia." He chaired a panel and presented a paper on gender and Sinitic poetry at the annual meeting of the Association for Asian Studies in Seattle in early April.

**Trevor Barton** was chosen as the Outstanding Senior.

## Russian

**Ona Renner-Fahey, Associate Professor**, has served this semester as a reviewer for abstracts for the annual conference of the American Association of Teachers of Slavic and East European Languages and also served on the Selection Committee for the University of Montana's Presidential Leadership Scholarship. In addition, this semester marks the end of her three-year term on the University Standards Committee of the Faculty Senate.

**Clint Walker, Associate Professor**, was invited to serve on a review panel at the National Endowment for the Humanities for its Scholarly Editions and Translations competition in

Washington, D.C. in March. He also participated in the annual Film Studies faculty seminar at UM and, together with Sean O'Brien, led an evening discussion session for the GLI program entitled "Identity: Self and Nation."



Russian Club members ShayLee Perry, outgoing President and graduating senior; Tiphane Erickson, new Vice-President; Lindsey Greytak, new President Photo by Ona Renner-Fahey

The Russian Studies Program brought two visitors to campus this spring. Chad Gracia, a prize-winning film director whose documentary on Chernobyl, *The Russian Woodpecker*, was sponsored by Russian Studies during Missoula's Big Sky Documentary Film Festival. The other guest was Professor Eugene Avrutin, Russian historian from the University of Illinois, who gave a public talk on the longest ritual murder case in the modern world.

Russian student **Julie Ammons** won a highly competitive U.S. Department of State Critical Language Scholarship to travel to Russia this summer. She was also awarded UM's Russian Scholar Laureate Award (under the auspices of ACTR) and won a bronze medal in the highly competitive annual ACTR National Essay Contest. Congratulations, Julie!

## Spanish

**Maria Bustos, Professor**, directed the Study Abroad Program to Argentina this semester in which thirteen students participated. The program consisted of three weeks in Patagonia and two months in Buenos Aires. While in Patagonia, Maria taught an intensive course on the indigenous groups, migration, and settlement patterns and development, and the group visited Bariloche, Esquel and Trevelin. In Buenos Aires, students lived with Argentinean families and attended the

Universidad de Belgrano where they completed two intensive courses taught by Argentinean professors. Maria taught one course on Argentinean literature and one on Spanish grammar.

**Clary Loisel, Professor**, taught a new 391 WGSS course “Feminism in Latin American Film and Literature” during Wintersession. He finished the draft (in Portuguese) of his manuscript *Ordem e Progresso* (Order and Progress) on Brazilian history. He is also currently recruiting students for his faculty-led study abroad program to Oaxaca, Mexico for spring 2017. In February, he presented “How to Live to be 100” to students in the Global Leadership Initiative. In April, he invited Dr. Robert Stone from the Naval Academy and specialist in Spanish Golden Age Literature to participate in classes and to give a public, scholarly presentation. Most recently, Clary received the WGSS “Research Award” for his book of translated plays, *Mexican Queer Theater*.

**Jannine Montauban, Professor**, will be on leave in Peru next academic year where she will teach at the Universidad Católica del Peru.

**Pablo Requena, Assistant Professor**, has received generous funding from the UM Research Grant Program for collecting bilingual child language data for the project "Mood selection in Spanish-English bilinguals in the U.S." He has also presented the paper "Putting Grammaticalization Hypotheses to the Test in Spanish Variable Clitic Placement" at the 8th Workshop of Spanish Sociolinguistics in San Juan, PR.

The Outstanding Senior in Spanish is **Payton Wulff**.

MCLL is very grateful to alumni and friends who have so graciously and generously supported the department with their donations over the years. Such gifts help us to enhance our students' experience in the classroom and on study abroad programs.

Have a wonderful Summer!



Clark Fork River facing west

Photo Courtesy Mathias Pinon