Message from the Chair  Randal Johnson

In January 2000, the Department of Spanish and Portuguese lost a senior professor—Shirley Arora—to retirement. Professor Arora has made invaluable contributions to the Department and the University during her many years of service, and her active participation in departmental affairs will be sorely missed.

Shirley L. Arora

Professor Shirley Arora has been a model for students and colleagues since joining the Department of Spanish and Portuguese in 1962. Her service to UCLA has been exemplary. Between 1981 to 1991 she provided intellectual and administrative leadership as Chair of the Department of Spanish and Portuguese, taking it to a new level of excellence.

Outside of the Department, she chaired the Committee on Implementation of the Foreign Language Requirement and served as Director of the Humanities Cluster Program, Acting Director of the Latin American Center, President of the UCLA Faculty Center and the Association of Academic Women. She has selflessly served on countless committees at all levels of the University, and she has generously mentored many students and junior faculty members.

Through the years Professor Arora has developed an international reputation as a folklorist. In recognition of her work in the field, she was elected a Fellow of the prestigious American Folklore Society, one of the highest distinctions that an American folklorist can earn. A specialist on proverbs and legends, Professor Arora is the author of *Proverbial Comparisons in Ricardo Palma's Tradiciones peruanas* (1966), *Proverbial Comparisons and Related Expressions in Spanish Recorded in Los Angeles, California* (1977), and many related articles, including seminal analyses of the legend of the llorona. In retirement, she will continue to work on Spanish-language proverbs in Los Angeles.

Because of her accomplishments and stature as a folklorist, volume 12 of *Proverbium: Yearbook of International Proverb Scholarship* (1995) was dedicated to her as a Festschrift. In his *Laudatio*, the University of Vermont's Wolfgang Mieder writes that "there is no doubt that [Shirley Arora] is today the internationally recognized master of Hispanic proverbs and the use of proverbs by the Spanish-speaking population of California."

Her broad knowledge has turned her into a master teacher, a superb scholar of international renown, and a storehouse of knowledge and information on this fascinating aspect of proverb studies. She is both a pameirologist and pameirographer, and her publications have become indispensable to any student or scholar dealing with Hispanic proverbs."

Not limited to academic scholarship, Professor Arora has also published two works of fiction, *What Then, Raman?* (1960), which was reissued in paperback as *Tiger on the Mountain* (1970), and *The Left-Handed Chank* (1966).
Travel Abroad This Summer!

The department will sponsor two new summer abroad programs this year. Professor John Dagenais, together with Professor Teo Ruiz of the History department, will launch a program that will take students through France, Spain, and Portugal. The Pilgrim Roads to Santiago de Compostela will follow the historic roads from the wonderfully restored late-Gothic tower of St. James the Apostle in Paris to the cathedral and shrine of St. James in Santiago de Compostela in Spain, and then from Compostela down the Portuguese pilgrimage road to Lisbon.

These roads have been traveled by pilgrims from all over the world since the Middle Ages. Along the way the group will visit numerous historical and architectural sites which show the diffusion and importance of the cult of St. James throughout France, Spain, and Portugal.

The two integrated courses, Literature and History, will offer a broad perspective on the political, social, economic, and cultural context of the road to Santiago and on the idea of pilgrimage itself. Besides visits to important historical cities and sites along or near the road, the faculty, through lectures and assigned readings, will provide a comprehensive view of the literature and history of late medieval France, Spain, and Portugal. Lectures at each site and during bus travel will complement the reading of pilgrims’ travel journals and medieval literature related to the cult of St. James and the nature of medieval life.

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Faculty, Student, and Alumni News

Faculty News

Shirley Arora's "Tradición, invención y autoridad en el refranero actual" appeared in Paremia (Madrid), No. 8 (1999). An article she wrote some years ago has been translated into Spanish and published in the journal Lingüística y Literatura (University of Antioquia-Medellín), Año 18, No. 3 (enero-julio 1997). The title in Spanish is "El reconocimiento del refrán"; the original title was "The Perception of Proverbiality."

Héctor Calderón's and Ph.D. candidate José Rósbel López- Morfín's "Interview with América Paredes" will be published in the inaugural issue of the journal Nepantla: Views from the South from Duke University, due out in April.


Claude Hulet was invited by the Comissão Nacional para as Comemorações dos Descobrimentos Portugueses to present his paper "Vasco da Gama's Heroic Voyage to Round the Cape of Good Hope, Seen from a Navigator's Point of View" celebrating the 500th anniversary of the opening of the sea route to India. The conference, "Men, Voyages and Culture," took place in the National Archives (Torre do Tombo) and the Biblioteca Nacional in Lisbon, Portugal.

Efraín Kristal spent the first part of summer 1999 giving lectures in Australia and in Germany, and the second part of the summer in Buenos Aires doing research for his book on Borges and translation. He took time from his international travel to continue his community work teaching a week-long seminar on Dante's Divine Comedy for high school teachers of the Los Angeles Unified School District (in the Fall he also gave a lecture on "Translation and Poetry" for the LAUSD's Poetry for Educators Program). He has recently published: "Introduction to Mario Vargas Llosa's Cervantes and the Craft of Fiction," Vanderbilt University Press (1999); "Donoso y el discreto encanto de la terruna," Anthropos, no. 184-85 (1999); "Borges en el Collège de France," Taller de Letras, no. 27 (1999); "Borges y la traducción," Lexis, Vol. XXIII, no.1 (1999); "La historia imperial de España en el Orlando Furioso y La Araucana," in Dulce et decorum est philologiam colere: Festschrift für Dietrich Briesemeister, Sybille Grosse and Axel Schoenberger (eds.), (Berlin, Domus Editoria Europea, 1999). "Captive in the Wilderness:

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Travel Abroad continued

Although the course itself is not intended to be a pilgrimage, one key feature of it will be that the group will, in fact, walk several key stretches of the road to get a feel for the world of the pilgrim then and now: out of Paris along the street which still bears St. James’s name (rue St. Jacques) and over the pass near Roncesvalles where the Frankish hero Roland is said to have met his death at the hands of the Moors.

In July and August of 2000, the department will also offer for the first time a summer study opportunity in historic Salvador da Bahia, Brazil. Under the guidance of Professor Elizabeth Marchant, students will have the unique opportunity to live and study in Salvador, one of Brazil’s foremost cultural centers, to walk the cobblestone streets of the restored "old city" and explore the largest group of Baroque buildings in the Americas. Students will also be able to see street celebrations and feel the pulsating rhythms of Bahia’s African-inspired music and dance, and savor moqueca, vatapá and other delicious Afro-Brazilian dishes.

The program will offer Elementary level to Advanced Portuguese instruction and a special studies course that will focus on Afro-Brazilian history and culture. Field trips will be integral to the course and include accompanied museum visits, guided walking tours of Salvador, and visits to such sites as a terreiro de Candomblé and a capoeira academy. It will also include special excursions to Cachoeira and Morro de São Paulo.

The department will also continue to sponsor programs to Granada, Spain, and Puebla, Mexico, during the months of June and July.

For more information on the UCLA Summer Sessions Travel Study Programs write or call Summer Sessions at (310) 794-8340 or travel@summer.ucla.edu.

British Visitor Looks at Brazil through American Eyes

During the Fall quarter, Dr. Lisa Shaw from the University of Leeds, England, served as a visiting professor in Brazilian Civilization and Popular Culture. While in the department, Dr. Shaw was able to take full advantage of UCLA’s unrivaled holdings in the area of film to develop a research project on the representation of Brazil in the United States during the “Good Neighbor Policy” era and how this influenced the way Brazilians depicted themselves on screen in the 1940s and ‘50s.

The UCLA Film and Television Archive enabled her to analyze long-forgotten treasures, such as Walt Disney’s animated travelogue of Latin America, Saludos Amigos (1943), Columbia’s The Thrill of Brazil (1946), Twentieth Century Fox’s Charlie Chan in Rio (1941), and a selection of musical shorts, including Paramount’s The Copacabana Revue and Warner Brothers’ Carioca Serenaders and Carnival of Rhythm, all made in 1941.

The Archive’s vast collection of Hearst Metrotone newsreels provided invaluable insights into the coverage of “Pan-American” events in the 1940s, and the depiction of life in the city of Rio de Janeiro, in particular.

In addition to UCLA’s archives Professor Shaw carried out research at the Museum of Television and Radio located in Beverly Hills and the Margaret Herrick Library at the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences.

Dr. Shaw was an extremely active visitor and will be missed by students, faculty, and staff. Best of luck, Lisa!
Recent Events

October 20: Jacques de Bruyne, of the Universidad de Gante, presented a lecture titled “La formación de las palabras en el español actual.”

October 25: The winners of the 1999 Motion Pictures Association-Writers’ Guild of America Brazilian Screenwriting Competition visited the department for an informal discussion of contemporary Brazilian cinema and screenwriting. Tomás E. Creus was awarded best student screenplay for Circe, Bráulio Mantovani won the prize for best “semi-professional” screenplay with his adaptation of Paulo Lins’ novel Cidade de Deus, and José Roberto Torero won best professional screenplay with Terra Papaqali, an adaptation of his novel by the same title.

Professor Efraín Cristal, Chilean writer Roberto Castillo Sandoval, and Professor Verónica Cortínez

December 6: Sara Poot-Herrera of UC Santa Barbara, gave a lecture entitled “Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz: Algunos hallazgos recientes.” Professor Poot Herrera has written numerous articles on colonial and contemporary Mexican literature, and has published a book on Juan José Arreola, Un giro en espiral (1992). She is also the editor of two books on Sor Juana, Y diversa de mi misma entre vuestras plumas ando: homenaje internacional a Sor Juana (1993) and Sor Juana y su mundo: una mirada actual (1995), as well as El cuento mexicano: homenaje a Luis Leal (1996).

April 15-16, 2000: The XXIII Symposium on Portuguese Traditions (Europe, America, Africa, Asia) will be held at the Sunset Canyon Recreation Center, UCLA. The Symposium is an annual forum dedicated to the exchange and dissemination of ideas and information about the language and culture of the far-flung, Portuguese-speaking world, past and present. Its sessions are open to all who share that interest, and it welcomes the widest range of pertinent topics, since it traditionally has no fixed theme. Papers may be presented in English or Portuguese, are limited to fifteen minutes reading time. Selected papers will be published in Encruzilhadas/ Crossroads. As a special feature, this year the Symposium will join in the celebration of the 500th Anniversary of the Discovery of Brazil by Pedro Álvares Cabral, on April 22, 1500. Come join us to celebrate the Symposium’s 23rd year of continuous operation. For more information contact Professor Claude Hulet at chulet@ucla.edu.

Carroll B. Johnson presented a paper entitled "Some Poets and Lovers in La Gaiata" at the 4th Biennial Conference of the Society for Renaissance and Baroque Hispanic Poetry at UC Davis on 28 October. He also presented a paper entitled "Ficciones y metaficciones, estilo Mateo Aleman," at a symposium commemorating the fourth centenary of the publication of Gómez de Alfarache at the Universidad de Sevilla, on Thanksgiving Day.


Aided by a Del Amo Faculty Fellowship, C. Brian Morris spent six weeks of the summer vacation working on a book in Tenerife and Barcelona. Professor Morris' recent publications include: "Lorca's 'Horror a lo anecdotico': Enigma as Narrative in Two Gypsy Ballads ('La monja gitana' and 'Muerto de amor')" Mester 27 (1998); "The 'crit de llibertat' of J.V. Foix," Catalan Review 12:1 (1998); "Más allá de la autobiografía: El viaje de Sobre los ángeles" Anales de Literatura Española Contemporánea, 24 (1999).

Susan Plann spent the summer in Spain, doing research for a collection of essays on important figures in the history of deaf education during the 19th Century.

Montserrat Reguant participated as a special guest on a panel on "Language Policy and Political Issues Related to Heritage Languages" at the National Heritage Language Conference, organized by CalState Long Beach and the Center for Applied Linguistics (October 15, 1999). With CDI-MED she has been working on a Long Distance Course/Tutorial for Spanish Heritage students.

Sylvia Sherno lectured on "Contemporary Spanish Women Poets" to the participants in the MA Summer Program for Secondary Teachers at UC Santa Barbara. She also participated in the panel discussion of Lorca following the performance of Bodas de sangre produced by the Bilingual Foundation of the Arts.

"A Través del Cristal: Fuentes en la UCLA", an interview with Carlos Fuentes and former faculty members José Miguel Oviedo, Richard Reeve, and current Professor John Skirius was published in Carlos Fuentes: Territorios del Tiempo (Fondo de Cultura Económica, 1999.) The interview originally appeared in the department's graduate student journal Mester, vol. XI, no. 1 (1982).

Student News

Soraya Alamdari and Cristina Moon won Department of Spanish & Portuguese Teaching Assistant Awards for 1998-1999. The awards are for outstanding literature T.A.s and were accompanied by a travel grant to be used towards research for the dissertation.

Keya Koul presented "Reading El Cielo Extremoño: Feminists, Freudians, and Forgetful Professors" at the Eleventh Annual Southern California Cervantes Symposium, at Ocular Dental College on April 24, 1999. She also participated in QGrad - A Conference on Sexuality and Gender, at UCLA, presenting "Female to Male Crossdressing and the Creation of a Female Homoerotic Desire in Jorge de Montemayor's La Diana" on October 22, 1999.

Alumni News

John Akers (PhD, 1982) has been at Wofford College in Spartanburg, SC, for six years, teaching Spanish and working in the Career Services and Placement Office. In 1997 he was selected as "Faculty Member of the Year" by the Campus Union, the Wofford student governing body. In January 1995 his daughter Alessandra Olivia was born; last April his son Isaias Emiliano was born. John has recently performed poetry and classical guitar programs at Old Dominion, North Carolina State and Clemson University. Over the summer he gave two programs for the Carl Sandburg Home, a National Park in Flat Rock, North Carolina, focusing on the relationship of Carl Sandburg and the Spanish guitarist, Andres Segovia. He returned to Clemson for the Hispanic Heritage celebration in October and presented Latin American poetry inspired by the guitar, as well as a repertoire of classical guitar pieces by Latin American composers.

John M. Bennet (PhD, 1970) recently published Sendero Luminoso in Context: An Annotated Bibliography. The focus of the bibliography is on major works dealing with The Shining Path, articles and studies published in Latin America and other related scholarly journals (continued on back page)
and Peruvian books that deal directly with the issue. John is a professor of Spanish and Latin American literature at the Ohio State University, and for the past several years has worked as a librarian in its Latin American Studies library.

Jennifer Garson Shapiro (PhD, 1998) has received a tenure-track position at Pasadena City College and she is about to begin a collaboration with Dr. Sheikh Serfaty (UCLA PhD from circa 1980) on a textbook.

Nori Sogomonian (M.A., 1993) is currently fulfilling a Fulbright Scholar Award in Managua, Nicaragua. It is a 6 month lecture award in linguistics at UCA (Universidad Centroamericana). There she is teaching a phonetics workshop to first year students and a class on Language Acquisition to third year students. All students are in the Teaching English as a Foreign Language career. She is also fulfilling other duties as needed at the university, cultural centers and the U.S. Embassy.

Linda M. Wilem (PhD, 1988) published her second book, Galdós's Segunda Manera: Rhetorical Strategies and Affective Response, as part of the North Carolina Studies in the Romance Languages and Literatures. She also has been promoted to the rank of Full Professor at Butler University.