The 2003-2004 academic year is ending on a truly remarkable note for our Department, as three of our members have recently been honored with very special awards. Professor Carroll B. Johnson has just been selected as Faculty Research Lecturer for 2004-2005. Professor Jesús Torrecilla and Teaching Fellow Suk Yong Yi-Kang have received Distinguished Teaching awards. For our Department to have three of our own recognized campus-wide with such distinctions in a single year is really extraordinary. Our heartfelt congratulations to Carroll, Jesús, and Suk Yong for these great achievements, as well as our gratitude for their outstanding work! They make us very proud indeed.

Continued on page 4
BY GERARDO LUZURIAGA

Professor Carroll B. Johnson is one of the greatest authorities on Early Modern Spain, and his landmark contributions are recognized and celebrated by Hispanicists throughout the world. His outstanding achievements in research and his preeminence in the field led the Academic Senate to name him Faculty Research Lecturer for the coming year, one of a selected few among the entire UCLA faculty to be so honored. He will be officially recognized for this selection during the June 1st Legislative Assembly of the Academic Senate and he will deliver a public lecture to the university community next year. The Department of Spanish and Portuguese is very proud that Carroll has been honored with this exceptional award.

Carroll B. Johnson received his B.A. from UCLA and his doctorate from Harvard, and has taught at UCLA throughout his entire academic career. He has received a great many honors and distinctions over several decades, among them, election as Corresponding Member of the Hispanic Society of America (1979), President of the Cervantes Society of America (1997-2000), Honorary Fellow of the Hispanic Society of America (2002, one of only 100 Fellows elected), and Chair of the Division Executive Committee of the Modern Language Association (1983-1985).

Johnson has written on several of Spanish Golden Age major writers. His first book, *Mattas de los Reyes and the Craft of Fiction* (University of California Publications in Modern Philology, 1973), is widely recognized as the definitive work on the Madrid novelist and playwright's narrative technique. *Inside Guzmán de Alfarache* (UC Press, 1978) represents the first-ever attempt to explain Mateo Aleman's famous novel by teasing out the protagonist's unspoken motivations based on the insights of psychoanalysis. In *Madness and Lust: A Psychological Approach to Don Quixote* (UC Press, 1983) Johnson applies the psychoanalytic approach to Cervantine studies for the first time. Prior to this seminal work, it seems that no one had had the temerity--or the insight--to consider the man from La Mancha as a sexual being, and the study immediately generated controversy among scholars.

In his latest book, *Cervantes and the Material World* (U. Illinois, 2000), Johnson uses a historicist approach, drawing on such authorities as Marx and Américo Castro and more recent Continental thinkers (Bartolomé Bennassar, Pierre Bourdieu, Fernand Braudel, Bernard Vincent, Charles Aubrun, Noé Salomon, ...), as well as his own personal critical acumen and superb imagination. Particularly noteworthy is Johnson's examination of women's role in the sociopolitical order of the day, the subject of the second half of this work. This study of Spain's most famous author has been received with great critical interest and has revitalized Cervantine studies. Our colleague is currently working on yet another book, this time on the *Morisco* culture. He gave us an advance of this study this past Winter as he inaugurated the Department's "Work in Progress" series.

Carroll B. Johnson is deservedly praised by his peers for his ground-breaking studies. Steven Hutchinson (U. Wisconsin, Madison) asserts that in his books Johnson consistently makes "lucid and fascinating connections nobody has ever made" and that he is "one of the few American scholars in Early Modern Spanish studies who can converse with people on both sides of the Atlantic." Hutchinson adds that Johnson's approaches combine a "theoretical openness with a historical rigor that no other American Cervantine scholar can even come close to." His work, according to Michael Gerli (U. Virginia), is "so far ahead of its time that when it appears, it is deemed idiosyncratic, even peculiar, by prevailing critical wisdom, only to be resoundingly vindicated over time as having been on the vanguard of a whole new set of critical principles and hypotheses."

Continued on page 6
Distinguished Teaching Award

By Gerardo Luzuriaga

This past winter, Professor Jesús Torrecilla received the prestigious UCLA Distinguished Teaching Award, in acknowledgment of his outstanding contributions as instructor and mentor at the undergraduate and graduate levels. This prize is given to only a handful of faculty members every year and is considered a great honor to both the recipient and his Department. The Department of Spanish and Portuguese is delighted that yet another of its members has been recognized with this major award.

Having received his Ph. D. from the University of Southern California in 1991, Jesús Torrecilla taught for several years at Louisiana State University before joining our Department in 1997 as an Assistant Professor. Shortly thereafter, he was promoted to Associate Professor and in 2002 he became a Full Professor. Torrecilla lectures primarily in the area of modern Spanish literature, although he has taught a wide range of courses at both the undergraduate and graduate levels, including a General Education course on Civilization of Spain and Portugal (M42) and a graduate course on literary theory and criticism (M201). Torrecilla has also taught a Fiat Lux seminar—a new type of course designed to expose undergraduate students, in small groups, to current faculty research—on “Exotic Spain,” the topic of his most recent book.

Jesús Torrecilla has been and continues to be an enthusiastic supporter of our Department’s Summer Travel Study programs. He led large groups of undergraduate students in a four-week long program in Granada, Spain, on two occasions, and last year he directed a similar program in Puebla, Mexico. Those programs were extremely successful, due to a great extent to Torrecilla’s special rapport with students.

Torrecilla has the reputation of being a very demanding instructor, and students who take his classes or do individual studies or write doctoral dissertations under his direction notice his high standards right away and can expect to work hard. Students praise him for being meticulously organized, methodologically rigorous, very fair at grading, and extremely dedicated to his students.

Perhaps a student’s recollection of her experience in Professor Torrecilla’s classes captures best the quality of his teaching and his relationship with students. This student wrote: “My first upper division Spanish literature class was the Introduction to Spanish prose... I was both afraid and unsure of my Spanish skills when I entered the class, and Professor Torrecilla’s rigorous approach on the first day did nothing to assuage my fears. However, I soon realized that, although he is a demanding instructor who desires nothing less than the best from his students, he also supports his students every step of the way... In the classroom, he is always forthright, yet affable, and from the experience of being in three of his classes, I also believe that he quickly earns the respect of most students who enter his classroom.”

It is said in academia that good teaching is quite often strengthened by good research. There is no doubt that in Jesús Torrecilla’s case his excellent scholarly work benefits his teaching. A specialist in 19th Century Spanish literature, he is internationally respected for his contributions in the area of Spanish national identity. He has published three sole-authored books (España Exótica: La Formación de La Identidad Española Moderna, 2004; El Tiempo y los Márjenos (Europa como utopía y como amenaza en la literatura Española), 1996; La imitación colectiva: modernidad vs. autenticidad en la literatura española, 1996) plus an edited volume on La Generación del 98 (2000), another co-edited volume on Razón, Tradición y Modernidad: Revisión de la Ilustración Hispánica (1996), and many articles. He writes with clarity and elegance, and reading his publications can be both enlightening and entertaining. After all, Jesús is also a prize-winning writer, with two novels already under his belt (Guía de Los Angeles, 2001, and Tornados, 1998), and a collection of short stories under way.

Congratulations, Jesús!
This will be my last message as Chair of the UCLA Department of Spanish and Portuguese. My term as head of the Department expires at the end of this Spring quarter, and I have decided to step aside and pursue other activities. It has been a great privilege and honor to serve in this capacity and work with such a special group of faculty, teaching assistants, and staff. My job has been much more rewarding thanks to their collaboration and support from day one. Professor John Dagenais has been named my successor, effective July 1st. He is a medievalist of international renown, author of The Ethics of Reading in Manuscript Culture, among other publications, who I am sure brings to the chairship new ideas and a lot of energy. With his selection as Chair, the Department will be in very good hands. I offer my congratulations and support to him as he assumes his new responsibilities.

These have certainly been demanding times, but also quite satisfying. I leave with the sense that significant achievements have been realized in the past three years and that the Department continues to be one of the best in the country. We have an outstanding faculty, a very talented graduate student body, and a very professional staff. In the area of public events, we have organized many symposia, conferences, and round tables, and have brought to campus distinguished visiting faculty and such speakers as Nobel Prize laureate José Saramago, of Portugal, prize-winning novelist and politician Sergio Ramírez, of Nicaragua, and the legendary writer Elena Poniatowska, of Mexico. Our staff has developed several list-serves for our various types of events and has updated our website, and now our activities are announced broadly. These efforts have resulted in larger audiences. Our graduate students have increasingly been involved in presenting papers (with enhanced financial support from the Department for travel to professional meetings) and organizing their own conferences. The Department started this year a very successful "Work in Progress" series, with the participation of our own faculty and graduate students. All of these activities both demonstrate and stimulate the intellectual energy of our Department.

From a personal perspective, some of the highlights during my tenure as Chair include: the hiring of two outstanding young scholars (Michelle Clayton and Anna More); the promotion of four colleagues to the upper ladder ranks (now full professors Adriana Bergero, Héctor Calderón, Verónica Cortínez, and Jesús Torrecilla); the visit of the three above-mentioned writers; the 2002 Conference on Central American literature (I may be a bit biased here, since I was one of the conference's conveners); the creation of the position of Director of Graduate Studies (occupied by Carroll B Johnson); the revision of the graduate program; the forging of an until now elusive Minor in Mexican Studies; several joint endeavors with other academic units, such as the Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, the Latin American Studies Center, the César Chávez Center, the Department of Comparative Literature, and others; the refurbishing of our Lydeen Library and the increase of its holdings; the launching of the Work in Progress series; and the establishment of an advanced study program in Costa Rica, which complements well our academically and financially thriving summer programs. In a separate category altogether, shines a very generous donation by Professor Emerita Shirley Arora, which will be used to provide every year a full fellowship, named after her, to a deserving graduate student, starting this coming Fall. Also during my watch the Department underwent its eight-year review, with the participation of a team of internal and external reviewers, whose report was by and large positive, which is no mean feat, considering that such reports can be quite critical. Each faculty and staff member has played a role, one way or another, in the Department's overall well being, and I thank all of them for their valuable input.

I would like to conclude by expressing my deepest appreciation to the seven special individuals that make up our Staff: Heidi Arbisi-Kelm, Ernesto Guerrero, Mary Hoang, Hilda Peinado, Matt Tyler, Peter Yi, and the Department MSO, Jami Jesek. They all are extremely efficient and hard working. If the Department runs so smoothly, it is mostly because of them. My hat is off to their exemplary commitment and dedication to their work.

My very best wishes to all our readers for an enjoyable summer.
DEPARTMENT GRADUATE STUDENT SUK YONG YI-KANG
WINS DISTINGUISHED TEACHING ASSISTANT AWARD

BY HILDA PEINADO

It's a long way from South Korea to Argentina. For 7-year old Suk Yong Yi-Kang the world changed completely when she and her family made the decision to emigrate. Her father, who'd been part of the Korean government's special forces, went into business in Buenos Aires like so many of his countrymen. The adjustment for Yi-Kang, being so young, was not as difficult as it was for the adults, especially when she had elementary and secondary school to attend. That's a cultural immersion right there. After secondary school Yi-Kang attended medical school at the University of Buenos Aires. She studied medicine for three years, and during the summers she would come to the US to learn English.

Suk Yong Yi-Kang

Medical school turned out not to be the ideal career and Yi-Kang decided instead to pursue a major in Economics/International Relations at Saddleback College. That was another big jump from Buenos Aires to Los Angeles. From Saddleback she transferred to UCLA. Although she thought she was going to continue with economics, she started to take literature courses in the Spanish department. That did it and there was no turning back. She graduated with a major in Spanish. She knew then what her ultimate career would be: professor of literature. In 1998 she applied to graduate school at UCLA, UCI, UC Berkeley. All accepted her but she opted for UCLA because she knew she wanted to work with Prof. Verónica Cortínez.

Like many other graduate students who started teaching during the first quarter of graduate school, she was terrified when she had to teach for the first time. Fortunately, Sandra Pérez, who would later win the Distinguished TA award, was the TA Consultant at the time. Yi-Kang learned a lot from her and in the process discovered her passion for teaching. She had the encouragement of then Lower Division Coordinator Dr. Susan Schaffer and Dr. Sylvia Sherno, UCLA Department of Spanish and Portuguese, and her mother who'd always wanted her to find a career that would allow for a family life. Yi-Kang became involved in all aspects of Lower Division including web design for the activities in level 3 and in a service-learning project for Spanish 4. She was selected as the TA Consultant for 2002-03. Not only did she enjoy teaching language but also teaching literature in Spanish 120B with Prof. Torrecilla. Winning the Distinguished TA Award for 2004, is the capstone to her years in Lower Division.

But being in graduate school isn’t all about teaching. Yi-Kang is majoring in contemporary Spanish American literature and is writing her dissertation under the direction of Professor Verónica Cortínez. When Yi-Kang was preparing for her Ph.D. qualifying exams, she had to settle on a dissertation topic first but it was taking some time. The discovery of her perfect topic came about in a most serendipitous way. When a fellow student, Jasmina Arsova, was at the University of Nevada (Reno), she met Edgar Brau, a writer-in-residence there. She invited him to visit UCLA and then introduced him to Yi-Kang. The introduction prompted Yi-Kang to read several of his books and she had to concur with Anderson Imbert: here was a major talent in Argentine literature and yet very little has been written about Brau’s work. Here was her dissertation topic! Of course, analysis of Brau’s work will necessitate exploring in depth the themes of violence, psychological and physical torture, repression, and censorship that have been a part of the tragic history of so many Latin American countries. In this case, of course, it's specifically Argentina Brau writes about. Yi-Kang will soon return to Argentina, her second home country, this time to do research for her dissertation.

Yi-Kang says she's blessed with the wonderful things that have happened to her in life. Most of us would agree that she has a lot to do with it. Yi-Kang is known for her organization and her incredible timing with things that most don't think they have much control over. She met her husband while in line at a bank, well, he worked there. She “timed” the birth of both her children so as not to interfere with her teaching or her studies. And it really is her “time” to shine as she is recognized for her tremendous talent. Things definitely are going well for Suk Yong now and the future promises to bring continued success.
Our colleague has also published a great number of scholarly articles and has presented many erudite papers at professional conferences, including keynote addresses. He also has organized a number of major symposia, one of which resulted in a published volume (Cervantes and His Postmodern Constituencies, with A. J. Cruz). Equally important events organized by him include a symposium honoring Salvador de Madariaga (UCLA, 1979), an international conference on the 4th centenary of Quevedo (UCLA, 1980), the Southern California Cervantes Symposium (UCLA, 1990), and the "Pacificas convivencias" symposium in honor of F. Marquez Villanueva (UCLA, 2002).

Johnson has served our profession in exemplary fashion. As Chair of the Executive Division of the Modern Language Association and as Vice President and President of the Cervantes Society of America, he has organized numerous conference sessions and plenary addresses at professional meetings across North America (for example, Lexington, KY, 1996; Washington, D.C., 1996; Toronto, 1997; San Francisco, 1998). Additionally, for many years he has held positions on the editorial boards of the most prestigious journals in his field: Book Review Editor of the Bulletin of the Comediantes (1974-78), Associate Editor of the Journal of Hispanic Philology (1984-1991), and Associate Editor of Cervantes (1980-present). Given his preeminence in his field and his outstanding public speaking abilities, it came as no surprise that when (in 2002) the Modern Language Association dedicated its weekly National Public Radio program "What's the Word" to the topic of Don Quijote, our colleague was among a select group of Hispanists invited to participate. Johnson was featured again in a documentary on the same subject, "Don Quijote: 400 Years on the Road," aired in three segments (summer 2003) on the Canadian Broadcasting Company program "Ideas." In March 2004 he was asked to work with award winning filmmaker Carl Byker on a major PBS television series on the Early Modern Spanish Empire as the first global superpower, which includes the role of writers such as Cervantes.

This note cannot end without at least a passing reference to Johnson's role as a true educator and a model for students and scholars alike. One of his peers summed up Johnson's performance in this area by asserting that the many doctoral students he has formed and mentored throughout his career "represent several decades of the best of Golden Age scholars" (Hutchinson).

Congratulations, Carroll!

**RECENT LECTURES AND CONFERENCES**

- Screening of BALSEROS, Academy Award Nominee for Best Feature Documentary, February 24, 2004.
PROFESSOR MERRILL SWAIN DELIVERS MATTHEWS LECTURE

BY SUSAN PLANN

On Friday, May 7, Prof. Merrill Swain of the University of Toronto, Ontario, delivered the Department of Spanish and Portuguese’s annual Lois B. Matthews lecture. Swain, a Professor in the Modern Language Center at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, is an internationally recognized authority in second language acquisition and a member of her university’s Department of Curriculum, Teaching and Learning and the Department of Linguistics. She is past President of the American Association for Applied Linguistics (1998-1999), Vice-President of the International Association of Applied Linguistics (1999-2005), and the recipient of numerous honors and awards, including the American Association for Applied Linguistics’ Distinguished Scholarship and Service Award and the Canadian Association of Second Language Teachers’ Le Prix Robert Roy.

Prof. Swain’s areas of research include second language test development, communicative competence, content-based teaching, task-based learning, and collaborative learning. Swain is the first Matthews Lecturer to speak on a topic in linguistics, and her talk, which she delivered in the Kerckhoff State Room, was very well attended, drawing more than seventy people from a number of departments on the UCLA campus and beyond.

Prof. Swain’s research, which centers on French immersion programs in Canada, has important implications for language teachers and researchers everywhere, and perhaps nowhere more than in Southern California. Her work is of particular significance to a department like our own, in which the majority of the classes we offer are language classes—Spanish, Spanish for heritage speakers, and Portuguese—and virtually all of our graduate students are engaged in language teaching.

During the 1980s Prof. Swain was one of the first linguists to argue that, contrary to the then-widely-held belief, mere exposure to the target language is not sufficient to ensure native-like proficiency. Her Output Hypothesis emphasized the need for students to actively produce the language by speaking as well as writing in order to attain more native-like command of the second language. Swain’s groundbreaking work is regularly included in graduate linguistics classes in our department.

For her Matthews Lecture Prof. Swain spoke on “A Language Learning Strategy: Production before Comprehension.” Focusing on recent research that explores the role of collaborative dialogue in second language learning, Swain demonstrated that dialogue among students provides opportunities for second language learning because it engages learners in problem-solving and knowledge-building—in this case, the solving of linguistic problems and the building of knowledge about language. The theoretical underpinnings of her work are to be found in the Russian psychologist Lev Vygotsky and others who maintain that individual mental resources develop from collective behavior. Her research is also grounded in socio-cultural theory, for instance work by Wertsch and Stone, who observe that learners produce seemingly appropriate linguistic behavior before fully comprehending its significance. The observation applies equally to children mastering their first language and to second language learners, and Swain argues that for students of a second language, speaking and writing mediate comprehension, thus advancing the acquisition process. Because we produce before we comprehend, production becomes an entry point to language learning.

Prof. Swain illustrated her lecture with examples from a task-based experiment she conducted with several colleagues. In the study in question seventh-grade second language learners in a French immersion classroom in Canada wrote stories based on visual or auditory stimulus. Swain analyzed the dialogue students engaged in as they wrote their stories and the feedback they received while writing; their reflections on that feedback were related to their posttest performance. Her examples clearly revealed instances in which second-language production led to

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GRADUATE STUDENT CONFERENCE
"TRANSFORMATIONS: RE-IMAGINING IDENTITY"

BY ALESSANDRA SANTOS

"Transformations: Re-imagining Identity," the Spanish & Portuguese Graduate Student Conference was held on April 16, 2004. It had been many years since there was a conference organized by students in the department; graduate students Iliana Alcántar, Marisol Pérez, Alessandra Santos, and Melissa Strong Carrillo decided to reintroduce the departmental graduate student conference tradition. Having founded the Graduate Student Conference Committee in Spring of 2003, they embarked on a full year's work to organize the conference. Their work resulted in a full day of stimulating conference papers, all followed by intense discussion. Professor Gerardo Luzuriaga graciously opened the conference, and professors Michelle Clayton, John Dagenais, Beth Marchant, and Claudia Parodi expertly moderated each panel. Throughout the day panelists engaged their audience, exploring identity in the Hispanic and Lusophone world through a variety of lenses.

The conference was divided in four panels: Music and Urban Space in Brazil, Transformation Through Language, Citizenship and Nationality, and Countering Perceptions. Damian Bacich, Yasmine Beale-Rosano Rivaya, Vanina Eisenhart, Catherine Fountain, Diane Gunn, Alejandro Lee Chan, Lizy Moromisato and Patricia Villegas-Silva presented. They should all be very proud of their professional and intellectual work. Graduate students from UCLA's Ethnomusicology, Romance Language & Literature, Comparative Literature, and English departments as well as UC Berkeley, UC Riverside, and USC also presented commendable papers. The keynote speaker, Dr. Norma Alarcón from UC Berkeley, gave a heartfelt presentation about her own experiences among the Zapatista women from Chiapas, Mexico, addressing pressing questions of gender identity vis-à-vis political identity.

Conference participants and attendees continued to discuss the conference at the reception. The event was well attended by professors from our department and both UCLA graduate and undergraduate students. The conference was made possible by the sponsorship and support of the UCLA Graduate Student Association, the UCLA Spanish & Portuguese Department, and the Spanish & Portuguese Graduate Student Association. Irene Carranza, local Chicana artist, generously loaned her artwork, which added a special touch to the Herbert Morris Seminar Room. Last but not least, the conference would not have taken place without the dedication and kindness of the department's staff. Overall, the conference was a resounding success. We hope this will become a departmental tradition.
FIRST ANNUAL
POETRY DECLAMATION CONTEST

BY TIFFANY POWELL

On Saturday, May 1, 2004 the UCLA Department of Spanish & Portuguese hosted the First Annual Poetry Declamation Contest, an outreach event designed to promote Spanish, the arts, and literacy. Forty high school Spanish students representing nine high schools from the greater Los Angeles community traveled to UCLA to participate in this event. The students dramatically recited before a panel of judges two canonical poems - one obligatory and one they chose. The participants were divided into four categories depending on their mastery of the language: beginner, intermediate, advanced and heritage speaker. After the panel of UCLA Department of Spanish and Portuguese graduate students completed the judging process, the high school students along with their Spanish teacher, family members and friends congregated in a large auditorium for a final awards ceremony. Department Chair, Professor Gerardo Luzuriaga, welcomed everyone, and the keynote speaker, Dr. Sylvia Sherno, presented a delightful address which showed how poetry is not only still alive but surrounds us daily. All participants received a certificate of participation and the top winners of each category received prizes that were generously donated by local businesses. Before the program ended, the top winners of each category declaimed their poem one last time for the entire audience. This outreach event, which brought together many members of the Department, was a lovely activity that everyone enjoyed. We hope to someday see these students taking Spanish classes here at UCLA!


“Cuadrados y ángulos”

por Alfonzina Storni

Casas enfiladas, casas enfiladas.
Casas enfiladas, cuadrados.
Casas enfiladas.
Las gentes ya tienen el alma cuadrada,
ideas en fila
y ángulo en la espalda.
Yo misma he vertido ayer una lágrima,
Dios mío, cuadrada.

A selection from the set of obligatory poems memorized by declaimers.

“It was very heartening to see how seriously the young people took this event. It was clear that they were trying to do their very best and to do justice to the poems they recited. I would be glad to see it become an annual function, particularly because it was truly an outreach event.”

Dr. Sylvia Sherno, Keynote Speaker, UCLA Department of Spanish and Portuguese

“The event was outstanding in the way it brought culture and poetry together, as well as how it helped Spanish students enhance their own understanding of the language. I loved seeing the costumes that some ‘declamadores’ wore in order to enhance their performances.”

Luis Orozco, (Spanish major)
undergraduate student volunteer

“It was so nice to see students with different motivations and backgrounds come together for this event. For some, it was a chance to test their courage and learn something new and perhaps totally foreign to them. For others, it was a chance to celebrate their own heritage in a way I’m sure they don’t get to very often. I was thoroughly impressed with all of the students there that day.”

Liz Goodin, graduate student judge

“It was a really nice way to expose local high school students to the UCLA environment, to meet the faculty, and to see what we are all about. It was also a fun activity to get graduate students and undergraduate students together. I know they had fun. It looked like everyone enjoyed it.”

Melissa Strong Carrillo, graduate student judge
LITERARY THEORY ROUND TABLE

The round table "Interdisciplinary Latin Americanism: Personal and Professional Trajectories. Cultural Studies, Post-colonial Studies, Gender Studies, Gay and Lesbian Studies, and Subaltern Studies" took place on May 24, 2004. Participants included: Professor Sara Castro-Klarén (Johns Hopkins University), Professor Jean Franco (Columbia University), and Professor Sylvia Molloy (New York University). UCLA Department of Spanish and Portuguese Professor Adriana J. Bergero and UCLA César E. Chávez Center Professor María Cristina Pons organized this event sponsored by the Department of Spanish and Portuguese and the Latin American Center. Professor Elizabeth Marchant served as moderator.

GOLDEN AGE SYMPOSIUM

The Asociación Internacional de Teatro Español y Novohispano de los Siglos de Oro in conjunction with The UCLA Department of Spanish and Portuguese, Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, and Cal Poly, Pomona’s Department of English and Foreign Languages held “Spanish Golden Age Comedia: Theory, History & Practice—Moreto’s ‘Spite for Spite’ in NOHO!!” at UCLA, April 16, 2004. The symposium brought together a panel of specialists on Renaissance and Baroque Hispanic Theatre. Also present were professors and students of Spanish Golden Age Theatre as well as the directors and actors involved in producing it. Speakers created a dialogue between the Spanish Golden Age theatre specialists in theory and history and the experts in producing it for today’s audience. Themes for discussion included, “How the Spanish classics remain relevant for the contemporary stage and how economics and cultural politics determine its success.”

MATTHEWS LECTURE WITH SWAIN CONTINUED

comprehension—a phenomenon not commonly discussed in the current literature on second language learning, and one that is diametrically opposed to the well-known situation in which comprehension precedes production.

Prof. Swain’s formal lecture was followed by a lively exchange with members of the audience. The discussion included theoretical questions on language learning as well as more practical concerns, and some graduate students formulated questions and observations based on their own experience as teachers of Spanish. A reception at the close of the presentation allowed faculty and students to engage in further informal conversation with our speaker, after which graduate students Amy Rell and Jason Rothman interviewed her for the graduate journal Mester.

On the day preceding her lecture at UCLA, Spanish and Portuguese professors and graduate students treated Prof. Swain to dinner at a Westwood restaurant; the day of her talk professors and students also had the opportunity to socialize with her during lunch at the UCLA Faculty Center. Our distinguished guest’s visit culminated in a special dinner with various faculty and graduate students in attendance. Following the dinner members of the department of Spanish and Portuguese bid a fond farewell to our first Matthews Lecturer in linguistics, but not before Prof. Swain had invited graduate students and faculty alike to visit her at her University in Toronto.
Verónica Cortínez has published “No pasarse de la raya: Una estética cinematográfica de la transición en El chacotero sentimental,” Chile después de Pinochet, eds. Titus Heydenreich, Walter Höfler, Roland Spilker, and Sergio Vergara, Frankfurt am Main: Vervuert, 2004. 181-199. On March 1st, she invited Gustavo Graef Marino to talk about his film Johnny Cien Pesos in her class on Chilean Literature and Film. During this year, Professor Cortínez has served as a member of the Academic Senate Teaching Committee. She has also organized and moderated the Work in Progress series in our department.

John Dagenais gave the keynote address on "1492 and All That" at the 7th annual Red River Conference on World Literature, "Crossing Borders, B(l)ending Boundaries," at North Dakota State University in Fargo, ND, April 24, 2004. His article "The Postcolonial Laura" will appear in the September 2004 issue of Modern Language Quarterly.


Michael Galant presented “Degree Adverbials in San Lucas Quiavini Zapotec: Cross-Linguistic Implications” at the Society for the Study of the Indigenous Languages of the Americas (SSILA) 2004 Annual Meeting, Boston, MA., January 2004. He also presented “Nature of the Standard of Comparison in San Lucas Quiavini Zapotec Comparatives,” at the Conference on Oto-Manguean and Oaxacan languages, Berkeley, CA, March 2004. He has accepted a new position of Assistant Professor at California State University Dominguez Hills, Department of Foreign Languages where he will be teaching Spanish and French as well as coordinating the Language Learning Center.

In February, Carroll Johnson inaugurated the new series featuring faculty and student work in progress, presenting work on Cide Hamete Benengeli's manuscript as a virtual text of Aljamiado literature. He will present a more polished version as the keynote address at the fourth annual Chicago Cervantes Symposium at the Newberry Library on 24 April 2004. This address is titled: "The Virtual Don Quijote: Cide Hamete Benengeli's Manuscript and Aljamiado Literature." He has contributed an article called "Some Observations on Cide Hamete Benengeli" to a volume honoring Professor James A. Parr (UC Riverside), to be published by Bucknell University Press.


Elizabeth Marchant recently accepted the position of Graduate Chair of Women's Studies for 2004-2005. She presented a paper entitled "Mestizo Identity and Local Literacy" at the Conference "Local Literacies," UCLA, March 13, 2004. She is presently working to arrange the Fall 2004 visit of distinguished Portuguese author Lidia Jorge to UCLA.


Claudia Parodi published “Maravillas del Nuevo mundo: el refinamiento culinario de los aztecas y Bernal Díaz del Castillo,” Yucatán: Instituto de Cultura de Yucatán, vol.3, 2003. In February she went to the presentation of the book En Gustos se comen géneros, where the previous article is included in Mérida, México. There, she made a presentation of Michael Schuessler's book, Elenísima, Ingenio y figura de Elena Poniatows-Continued on page 12
FACULTY NEWS CONTINUED

She also published “De la diacronia a la sincronia: contacto de dialectos en América,” Mexico: UNAM 2003. Her articles “Contacto de dialectos en Los Ángeles: Español salvadoreño y español mexicano,” and “Lengua e identidad de Jesua Palancares” were accepted for publication by the University of Sonora and by the Instituto Tecnológico de Monterrey respectively. In February she was invited as guest speaker by the Graduate Student Association of the University of California, Santa Barbara, where she talked about language and identity in Hasta no verte Jesús mío by Elena Poniatowska. In April, she was invited by the Graduate Student Association of Arizona State University to talk about sociolinguistics and literature. She is conducting two research projects with graduate students: One on the origins of leismo in Spain and its absence in Latin America, and the other on a cultural reconstruction of the first contacts between Spaniards and Indians in the Caribbean. The first project will be proposed for presentation at the ALFAL conference in 2005. The students that participated are: Angela Helmer, Kenny Luna and Maryam Saada. The second project is in progress, with the participation of the members of CECI, Centro de Estudios Coloniales de Cultura Iberoamericana: Lizy Moromisato, Catherine Fountain, Angela Helmer and Kenny Luna.


Tiffany Powell presented “How Spanish is Taught at UCLA,” at the Faculty Development Conference, San Pedro High School, San Pedro, CA, Fall 2003.

STUDENT AND STAFF NEWS


Damian Bacich delivered the paper “Esteemed by Italians and least known by Spaniards - Inca Garcilaso de la Vega and the Multiple Translations of Leone Ebreo’s Dialoghi d’amore” at the 10th Annual Conference of the Arizona Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies in Tempe, AZ, Feb. 12-14 2004. The theme of the conference was “Translation, or the Transmission of Culture.” His paper was a condensation of some of the core findings contained in his doctoral dissertation.

Yasmine Beale-Rosano Rivaya received a Title VI Foreign Area and Language Studies Fellowship from the Near Eastern Studies Center for the study of Advanced Arabic.


Carlos Fernández was a co-author of an interview of Dominican-American writer Junot Díaz for the UC Berkeley graduate student journal Lucero. The title of the interview is “Junot Díaz: writer, tigre, ghetto nerd, college professor.” It appeared this winter in volume 14, 2003.

Ernesto Guerrero will have an article published entitled “Do Hispanic Students

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STAFF AND STUDENT NEWS CONTINUED

Need to Assimilate in Order to Succeed in College?” The article will appear in The Hispanic Outlook in Higher Education later this summer.

Carolyn Kendrick presented the paper entitled “Maria Firmina Dos Reis’ Ursula and the Origin of the Brazilian Feminine Gothic” at the 2004 Kentucky Foreign Language Conference, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY, April 15-17th, 2004.

Alvaro Molina accepted a position as Assistant Professor in his specialty of Golden Age Spanish at Mary Washington College, in Fredericksburg, Virginia.


Michael Vermy presented the paper, “Exposing the attitudes of native speakers of Spanish towards non-native speakers of Spanish in Los Angeles, California,” at the 2004 Johns Hopkins University Graduate Student Conference, Johns Hopkins University, March 2004.

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT NEWS

ALMA FLORES WINS STUDENT SERVICE AWARD

Graduating senior Alma Flores, a double major in Spanish and Chicana/o Studies, has been chosen to receive the Department of Spanish and Portuguese Service Award. The $300 prize, which is sponsored jointly by the Department of Spanish and Portuguese and the Chicano Studies Research Center, is awarded annually to the graduating Spanish or Portuguese major or minor with the best record of service to the Latino community. This year's winner has an impressive history of community service that includes working as a Jumpstart tutor/mentor at the 28th Street Early Childhood Center, where she developed preschool curriculum and facilitated parental involvement in their children's education; interning with the Institute of Popular Education in Southern California (IDEPSCA), where she worked with parents to combat inequalities in area schools; and organizing with Consciencia Libre to pressure UCLA to hire subcontracted employees directly and provide them with appropriate benefits. Through Consciencia Libre Alma and her peers also founded and taught an English as a Second Language class for Latino employees on the UCLA campus.

Asked about her most meaningful involvement with the Latino community, Alma cites her work at the Centro Latino de Educación Popular. Her work as a tutor at the Pico-Union based adult literacy center began as a service-learning component to her Spanish 172 class, and when the class ended she continued to volunteer. "Knowing how to read and write is something the literate population can take for granted," she observes, but for adults learning to read for the first time it is a different story. "Being in contact with the students has been a give and take experience because while I taught them letters, words and sentences, they taught me about the struggles of life." Alma explains, "and they showed me that despite those struggles, it is never too late to accomplish a positive change in their lives.”
Alma is presently employed as an intern for the Immigrant Access Project at CHIRLA, a Los Angeles immigrant rights organization where her work includes planning press conferences to address cuts in state-funded immigrant programs and gathering testimonies from immigrants in need of assistance from such programs. After graduation she plans to participate in the New American Freedom Summer, whose goals include encouraging immigrants to engage in civic life, learn about their rights and combat vigilante justice at the US-Mexico border in Arizona. Beginning next fall she will work in the nonprofit sector in the greater Los Angeles area, continuing to serve the Latino community. Eventually she hopes to earn a Masters degree in Education and teach in a high school or community college. Congratulations, Alma, and keep up the good work!

Diane Blackburn Wins Richard Reeve Essay Award

By John Skiriis

Graduating senior Diane Blackburn, a major in Spanish and minor in Geography, has been chosen to receive the Richard Reeve Undergraduate Essay Award. The $300 prize, which is sponsored by the Department of Spanish and Portuguese, is awarded annually for the best essay on a topic of Spanish American/Chicano literature. Diane’s winning essay is entitled “La creación de una identidad nacional y los seres marginados: Cómo la población puede afectar la literatura fundacional” focuses on the Argentine writers, Domingo Faustino Sarmiento and José Hernández, and the Peruvian writer, Clorinda Matto de Turner. Diane wrote the paper for “Hispanic Literature, 1700 to 1898” with Professor Jesús Torrecilla. She credits him with having brought 19th-century literature alive with his enthusiasm.

Diane Blackburn

Diane is very active in the Department of Spanish and Portuguese. As president of the Undergraduate Spanish and Portuguese Association this year, Diane has organized a number of interesting educational and cultural projects including a movie night, a flamenco dance class, and a professional seminar for Spanish majors. This summer she plans to intern in Washington, D.C., for the U.S. Office of Federal Governmental Relations. Originally from Thousand Oaks in Ventura County, Diane has been accepted to the Department of Education Graduate Program where she will pursue a Master’s Degree with the aim of earning a bilingual teaching credential. Congratulations and best wishes, Diane!

Spanish Minor Wins University-wide Essay Competition

The Department of Spanish and Portuguese is pleased to announce that Spanish minor, Jenna Timinsky, won a Peter Rotter Essay award, a $1000 prize, for a composition that she wrote for the class “Latinos, Linguistics, and Literacy” with Professor Susan Plann. The class included theoretical readings on various aspects of literacy and its relation to the Los Angeles Latino community as well as a service-learning component. Timinsky’s essay entitled, “Reading into the Future: The Villa Esperanza Adult Literacy Program,” “reveals masterful use of course readings, on-site observation, oral history interviews, and the author’s astute criticism and suggestions,” according to nominating Professor Susan Plann. Plann further states that, “Timinsky describes and analyzes Villa’s curriculum, students and teacher and formulates recommendations for programmatic changes. The result is a sophisticated critical analysis of grassroots adult literacy program in the very heart of the city.” Timinsky’s essay also received special praise from the Dean of the Humanities Eric Sundquist. Speaking on behalf of the Faculty Prize Committee, Dean Sundquist described Timinsky’s paper as “an exceptionally fine piece of work.”

Jenna Timinsky

Jenna Timinsky is a UCLA sophomore. She attended San Dieguito High School in Encinitas, CA and has yet to declare her major. She states that she is strongly considering a major in Linguistic Anthropology to complement her Spanish minor. Timinsky says that volunteering as a reading tutor, helping the teacher and offering one-on-one assistance to the students at the Villa Esperanza Community Center personally has impacted her in many ways. Our warmest congratulations to Jenna!

Andolín Eguzkitza (12/6/1953 – 03/24/2004) Our Department is sad to announce the untimely death of Dr. Andolín Eguzkitza on March 24, 2004, due to an aneurysm, at the age of 50, in Bilbao, Spain. Dr. Eguzkitza studied at UCLA in the Romance Linguistics and Literature Program, with Spanish as his major Romance language. He received his Ph.D. at UCLA in 1986, with a thesis entitled Topics on the Syntax of Basque and Romance, under the direction of Spanish and Portuguese Professor Carlos P. Otero with Professor A. Carlos Quicoli as a committee member. After graduating from UCLA, Dr. Eguzkitza returned to Spain for teaching appointments first at the Universidad de Deusto and then at the Universidad del País Vasco (Vitoria), where he taught courses on general linguistics, semantics, and linguistic typology. In the latter institution, Dr. Eguzkitza became catedrático in general linguistics and typology in September 2003, a position that he occupied at the time of his premature death.

Dr. Eguzkitza’s passion was the study of the Basque language and literature, which he analyzed through an impressive number of books, articles, and newspaper articles. His many contributions to the field were recognized in many forms. In March 2001, Dr. Eguzkitza was appointed to Euskaltzaindia (Basque Academy of Letters), and from 1977 to 2002 he held the position of President of the Asociación de Escritores Vascos, among others. He will continue to live in our collective memory as a jovial, good-natured, and talented scholar who pursued his passion for the study of his native Basque language to the last day of his life.

Ann Hills was recently promoted to the rank of Associate Professor with tenure at the University of La Verne. Next year she will begin her term as Chair of the Modern Languages Department and Director of the Spanish Program. She is currently serving as ULV’s project manager for a consortium proposal which seeks to internationalize career and pre-professional programs, and will be traveling to Cuba in June to attend a weeklong international faculty seminar in Pinar del Río.

Bridget Kevane recently published the book Latino Literature in America, Greenwood Press, Westport, Conn. 2003. This book examines works of fiction by authors such as Julia Alvarez, Rodolfo Anaya, Sandra Cisneros, Junot Díaz, Christina García, Oscar Hijuelos, Judith Ortiz Cofer and Ernesto Quinones through an analysis of cultural identity and dissimilar versions of histories, prominent themes of Latino fiction. She also published the article, “A Revisionist View of El Inca Garcilaso de la Vega as a Transcultured Renaissance Writer,” in the Journal of Iberian and Latin American Studies, Volume 9, Number 1, June 2003. She also just signed a new book contract under the direction of Virgil Elizondo at University of Notre Dame.

Dwight Neumann recently published a novel entitled The Destroyer of Innocents. This unique novel presents the point of view of a Spanish language interpreter during a death penalty trial. It is available for view in its entirety on the internet at www.iuniverse.com. Neumann works as a Spanish language interpreter for the Los Angeles Superior Court in the San Fernando branch. He also teaches Spanish/English interpreting courses and presently teaches beginning interpreters at Los Angeles Mission College Community Extension as well as privately for California court certified interpreters. He has published thirteen interpreting manuals.

Edward F. Stanton is chair of the Department of Hispanic Studies at the University of Kentucky. He has co-edited a book with his son Daniel, Contemporary Hispanic Quotations (Greenwood Press, 2003), that has been called “a Latino Bartlett's.” It contains some 1,000 quotations by notable Hispanics in many fields, including some by Stanton's major professor at UCLA, Rubén Benítez.


Juan Velasco recently received tenure at the University of Santa Clara in the Department of English and Modern Languages. He teaches courses on contemporary Latin American and Chicano literature. His most recent book is Las fronteras móviles: tradición y modernidad en la literatura chicana contemporánea.