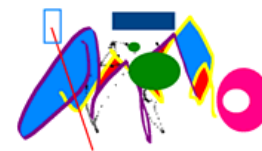


¡Oye! Alumni & Student News

Spanish: Issue No. 3, Winter 2009

Department of Spanish, Indiana University of Pennsylvania, 15705



Dr. Eileen Glisan Elected President of the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages!

After a nationwide vote by its 12,000 members, Dr. Eileen Glisan has been elected President of the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages ([ACTFL](#))! On January 1, Dr. Glisan assumed the role of President-Elect. Then, in January 2010, she will take on the role of president of the nation's umbrella organization for languages education. During her year as president, the annual convention will be held [November 19-21](#) in Boston, MA so make your plans to attend now. We look forward to seeing you there, and congratulations Dr. Glisan!



Dr. Sally Thornton retires.

By Professor Herlinda Hernández

Dr. Kathy Barton and I were asked by our colleague, Dr. Laura Delbrugge, to offer some remarks today for Sally's retirement party. I guess we were asked because we have both known Sally a long time and we consider her not only a colleague, but a good friend!

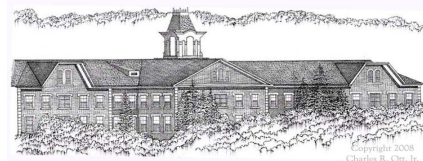
I, in particular, was probably asked be-

cause I'm the senior member of the Spanish department; I began my tenure at IUP in 1980. But Sally has actually been associated with this department longer than I. She was a graduate student in the 1970's and received her Master's degree in Spanish in 1977. Today we have a retired emeritus professor here, Cruz

Mendizábal, who can attest to the fact that Sally was his student.

Sally later went on to pursue and finish a Ph.D. degree at the University of Pittsburgh and became a member of this department in 1988.

As a member of the department, Sally, that's *Dr. Thornton*, has done it all: She has



Drs. Thornton (r) and Delbrugge (l) enjoy a moment during the Sigma Delta Pi initiation ceremony in December.

taught a wide variety of courses at different levels, has translated a book of short stories, and researched and published on women authors and authors of 19th century Spain. She has presented her research locally and nationally; she was on a faculty exchange to Costa Rica in the academic year 2000-2001; directed our Mexico summer program in Cuernavaca, Morelos, Mexico not once or twice, but three times.

Dr. Thornton is also a member of several professional organizations, which we will not list here. She also has an extensive service record to the department, the college, the university and the community, as well as being active in service to APSCUF, serving the local chapter as chair of the Temporary Faculty Committee and the state APSCUF as member of the Legislative Assembly. In addition Dr. Thornton was the department's Representative for several years.

Within the department, Dr. Thornton has served on numerous committees, namely the Evaluation and Promotion Committees, the Summer School Committee, and, I clearly remember, the Curriculum Committee of 1990, which brought about the first major departmental curricular revision of 1991. She also served as an adviser to *Ade-lante*.

At the college level, Sally was on

"Dr. Thornton has done it all."

the Research Committee which made recommendations to the University Senate Research Committee, and with regard to university-wide committees, Sally served on the University-Wide Tenure Committee.

In the last few years, Dr. Thornton has also served as the IUP Translation Center Director and Critical Languages Coordinator. That

would explain the happy faces of some of the international students present.

In summary, we congratulate Dr. Thornton on her many achievements during her tenure as a professor of Spanish, and wish her much happiness.



We Welcome a New Professor to the Spanish Department.

Dr. Marjorie Zambrano-Paff joined the faculty at IUP as Assistant Professor (tenure-track) in fall 2008. She completed her Ph.D. in Spanish Linguistics at the University of Pittsburgh. Her doctoral thesis, "The Interpreter's Linguistic Power: A New Courtroom Reality in Immigration Hearings," investigates the linguistic and sociolinguistic challenges interpreters confront in the process of interpreting during immigration hearings. She was born in Managua, Nicaragua but due to the political unrest of her native country at the time, she moved to Costa Rica searching for better academic opportunities. She lived in Costa Rica for 10 years where she attained her BA in English at the University of Costa Rica. Her professional experience started there in San José as both coordinator of the Spanish program and as instructor at two well-known language institutes in San José. Dr. Zambrano-Paff's teaching experience in the United States began in 1994 at Hamilton College in New York as a teaching assistant, as a lecturer at the University of Michigan, and at

Chatham College. Prior to joining IUP, she was a member of the faculty of the College of Charleston in South Carolina and at Gettysburg College in Pennsylvania. She has taught a variety of courses in the Spanish language and introduction to Spanish linguistics and pragmatics. Professor Zambrano-Paff's research interests are forensic linguistics, bilingual interpreting, bilingualism, language prejudice, language attitudes, language in the work place, and language and gender.



Mexico Study Abroad in Cuernavaca Big Success!

In May 2008, 21 students traveled to Cuernavaca, Mexico to study Spanish at the Universidad Internacional and live with Mexican host families for 6 weeks. Dr. Frank Brooks was the resident director there from IUP. The students took SPAN 244, Modern Mexico, taught by Dr. Brooks, as well as classes in grammar and conversation taught by Mexican instructors. In addition to studying, they went on various excursions to such exciting places as Mexico City, Taxco, and Xochicalco, and they spent a long weekend in Acapulco on Mexico's Pacific coast. Dr. Brooks is organizing yet another group to Mexico in summer 2009.



IUP's Chapter of Sigma Delta Pi, Iota Mu, Initiates Eight Students.

In the evening of December 5 eight students were inducted into the Spanish National Honor Society, Sigma Delta Pi: Naysa L. Altmeyer, Teri L. Carney, Emily A. Dowdell, Lindsay M. Gush, Meghan V. Huff, Stephen M. Johnson, Jessica J. Ott and Nicole R. Shaffer. Just prior to the induction ceremony, Dr. Marjorie Zambrano-Paff (far right) presented a fascinating talk about her research entitled, "The Importance of Good Interpreting: A Sociolinguistic Perspective." Following her talk, several students were overheard saying they were interested in taking a course in Spanish linguistics. Linguistics is the scientific study of human language. Perhaps such a course will be added soon to the department's curriculum!



IUP Spring Methodology Conference on Foreign Language Teaching set for April 24, 2009.

The annual IUP methodology conference is scheduled for Friday, April 24. A whole day's worth of professional workshops will be presented. As usual, teachers can earn up to 6 ACT 48 credits. Please note that the venue has changed for this year's conference. The conference will take place at the [Chestnut Ridge Golf Resort and Conference Center](#). Please check the [Department's website](#) for more information and registration materials. Our keynote speaker will be Dr. Miles Turnbull from the University of Prince Edward Island, Charlottetown, PEI, Canada, an honored teacher of French immersion and international scholar in second language acquisition and in language teaching methodology.

Faculty News Notes

Dr. Marveta Ryan-Sams put together a session for the annual convention of the Modern Language Association in San Francisco called "Intersecting Images: Representations of Black and Indians in Hispanic Caribbean Literature. During that session, Dr. Ryan-Sams presented a paper entitled "Yo soy indio y africano: A Borincano's Constructions of Self and Patria." Dr. Ryan-Sams also participated in the seventh biennial conference of the Afro-Latin/American Research Association (ALARA), held August 6-9 in Cartagena, Colombia where she presented a paper titled "Libertad, igualdad, fraternidad: Six Poems from Cuba's Black Press (1882-1893)", which was based on research carried out a few years before in the national library in Havana. Ryan-Sams added that "the conference in Cartagena was very interesting, in part because we were able to visit Palenque, a small town originally founded by people of African descent who had escaped slavery. Palenque has its own language (and a written form of it), and this is considered to be the only Spanish-based Creole language in the Americas."

Drs. Frank B. Brooks and Dawn Smith-Sherwood also co-presented during a session at the Modern Language Association annual convention entitled "Using Assessment to Mend the Language-Literature Split in High Education." Also, Dr. Brooks co-wrote the chapter "Embodiment as Self-Regulation in L2 Task Performance," published in the 2008 edited volume *Gesture: Second Language Acquisition and Classroom Research*, which is a part of the ESL and Applied Linguistics Professional Series.

Dr. Kathy Barton presented a paper called "Increasing the Use of the Target Language in the Classroom: Experiences of Beginning and Veteran Teachers" at the 2008 American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese international conference held in San Jose, Costa Rica.

Dr. Eileen Glisan presented a number of workshops in summer and fall 2008. In July she did two days of training of new foreign language faculty at the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs; the topics were "From Theory & Standards to Interpersonal Communication in the FL Classroom" and "Developing Interpretive Communication through Authentic Texts." In August she conducted a full-day workshop on the ACTFL Integrated Performance Assessment (IPA) for foreign language teachers in the South Central Service Cooperative in El Dorado, Arkansas. In October, Dr. Glisan co-presented a full-day workshop at the Pennsylvania State Modern Language Association Fall Conference held in Pittsburgh; the topic of the workshop was "Assessing Oral Proficiency: SOPI Beginner Workshop." In November, Dr. Glisan presented a half-day workshop on "Brain-Based Foreign Language Teaching" for world language teachers in the Pittsburgh Public Schools.

Dr. Lydia Rodríguez's latest publication is a co-edited book, *Mosaico literario sobre autoras latinoamericanas y caribeñas* (Literary Mosaic on Latin American and Caribbean Women Writers). The book, a collection of ten literary articles on Latin American and Caribbean Women writers, was published by University Press Andrés Bello in Caracas, Venezuela, in English and Spanish. Andrés Bello is one of Latin America's leading university publishing houses.

Dr. Marjorie Zambrano-Paff attended a conference in Italy where she presented her most recent research on the use of impoliteness strategies in bilingual hearings. Her paper was entitled "La intrusión descortés del intérprete como estrategia coercitiva en los tribunales de inmigración en los Estados Unidos." The conference was organized by EDICE, an academic organization that researches (im)polite discourse in the socio-cultural contexts in which such discourse is produced. EDICE was created to find alternative ways to help redefine the notion of social image and to identify the socio-cultural contexts where polite and impolite behavior are used in different Spanish-speaking groups and why. Dr. Zambrano-Paff added that "It is an honor to have been invited to participate in a conference of this magnitude."



Stay in Touch! Alumni Information Update, Please! You may cut and paste this page into your e-mail!

The Department of Spanish is trying to complete and maintain a current contact list of all of our alumni. Please let us know of your current whereabouts and accomplishments!

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Year Graduated and degree earned:

Current Employer:

Position & Duties:

Study Abroad with IUP: _____

Interesting news about yourself since IUP:

Please send your updates to: *[¡Oye! Alumni and Student News](#)*, Department of Spanish, Sutton Hall 455, 1011 South Drive, Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Indiana, PA 15705-1046 or email your update to

SpanAlumNews@iup.edu.

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