

MCLL News

April 2008

Modern & Classical Languages & Literatures

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The Chair

Bob Acker: Our **26th Annual Foreign Language Day**, held on Mar. 7, was a great success, and we received many positive comments from the participants. Over 340 students and 21 teachers from 14 high schools across the State attended a variety of language classes and special presentations. At noon they were joined by MCLL faculty for a luncheon in the UC Ballroom, where **Provost Royce Engstrom** delivered the keynote address. I would like to thank you all for your hard work and for your contributions to this important recruitment event.

MALT

The spring meeting of the Montana Association of Language Teachers will be held Apr. 18-19 in Fort Benton.

Marty Marko edited the new issue of the *MALT Bulletin*, which arrived in members' mailboxes at the beginning of March. Included in this issue are articles by **Ona Renner-Fahey** and **Charles Exley**.

Classics

Italy Study Abroad, 2009 - Seventeen students have just been accepted to participate in this university's Study Abroad in Italy for Wintersession, 2009. The students come from many disciplines across campus. The group will visit Milan, Florence, and Rome during January, 2009, after completion of an orientation course in the fall. The Program Director is **Linda W. Gillison**.

Brian Seilstad (B.A., Classics, 2001; M.A., Bryn Mawr, 2003) has just returned from 2 years' service in the Peace Corps as a Youth Development Volunteer in Morocco. He now lives in San Francisco, where he serves as AmeriCorps*Vista Coordinator for an Oakland non-profit which works with Title I middle

schools. He sends his regards to everyone.

(Email: seil40@hotmail.com)

Desiree Gerner (B.A., Classics, 2007) Desiree is currently part of the graduate program in Classics at the University of Oregon. Desiree has a research assistantship this year and has just been accepted to participate in the archaeological excavation at Poggio Civitate in Tuscany this summer, which is run by the University of Massachusetts-Amherst. All of us in Classics wish her the best. (Email: laforarina@gmail.com)

French

Ione Crummy's essay "La Barde comme génie national: The Wild Irish Girl de Sydney Owenson comme modèle de Corinne, ou l'Italie" will appear in *Cahiers Staëliens* 59 (Fall 2008).

The book **The Veil In All Its States** (*Le voile dans tous ses états*) – a selection of the proceedings of the 2005 UM International conference on the veil -- will be out in 3 weeks. It will be published by the University of Montana Press and sold for \$20.00. It was edited by a former member of MCLL, **Fazia Aitel**, and **Michel Valentin**. Feel free to buy a copy. It includes articles by Slavoj Zizek (of world renown), Elie Ragland (national reputation), Michel Valentin, and Hayden Ausland.

The Alliance Française French / Francophone / Europhone (!) Fashion Show and Wine tasting will be on Friday April 4, at 7:30 pm in the Ten Spoon Vineyards. It is a fund raiser and tickets are \$20.00

German

Liz Ametsbichler - A student of mine, **Sarah Windsor**, has just translated Viennese dramatist Arthur Schnitzler's play *Reigen* for her senior honor's project: *Around & Around*. As part of her project – and culmination of the UMCUR conference this Friday – she will direct (and act

in) her production of the translation. Time: Friday, April 4th @ 5 p.m. Additional performances will be Saturday, April 5th @ 7:30 and Sunday, April 6th @ 7:30. All performances are in the Recital Hall of the Music Building. Admission is free. It would be great if you could attend!

Marty Marko sends hello from Vienna, Austria. March highlights for him and the **9 UM students** participating in the Germany / Austria study abroad program include seeing an excellent, innovative production of Arthur Schnitzler's Reigen at Vienna's Imperial Theater as part of the program's German and Austrian Theater course. After students returned from their own adventures during spring break to such places as Sweden, Ireland, Croatia, and the Czech Republic, they joined Marty on a tour of Budapest, Hungary on the weekend of March 28th – 30th. During the stay, Marty conducted walking tours of the city, highlighting the place of Hungary in Central European history and the role of Budapest in the late 19th century as the dual capital to Vienna during the period of the Austro-Hungarian Empire from 1867-1918. Time seems to have gone by quickly during the semester, but Marty and his students are looking forward to one more rewarding month in Vienna before returning to Montana in May.

Russian

Russian Club was very active again this year at UM's International Festival. We had a booth displaying such traditional Russian objects as *matryoshki* (nesting dolls), amber, birch bark carving, woolen scarves and painted enamel. We also sold baked goods such as braided bread and sweet-cheese pastries. Russkii Klub also participated in the festival's Children's Word again this year, helping children make bookmarks with their names stamped in the Cyrillic alphabet. About a dozen club members, along with co-advisors **Ona Renner-Fahey** and **Clint Walker**, helped out in one way or another with this terrific cultural event.

Spanish

The Spanish Section is pleased to welcome **Ismael Artiga** (ABD, University of Kentucky) to the Department. Ismael will be joining us

next Fall as a one-year sabbatical replacement. His specialty is Spanish Golden Age Literature.

Maria Bustos reports the following about the **Argentina Study Abroad**: After two busy weeks in Buenos Aires, students are now at the University taking classes every morning 8-1 pm. The students are happy, living with families and there is hardly one night that we/they don't have something extra to do. One evening we all went to a PENA which is a place to eat where there is folklore dancing, guitar playing, and tunes and songs that are typical of this part of Argentina: chacareras, gatos, zambas, malambo etc. They are a little exhausted since everything here is so late. For example, the Pena show started at 11:30 and nothing finishes before 4 or 5 a.m. The other side of the story is that here life stops from 2-5 pm and many people (including the 8 students) have their naps. Not me: it is the time when I try to get a cafe with Internet. We recently had an interview for a local newspaper which is going to write about the visit of University of Montana students to Tucuman. Two students came with me for the interview. We were also in the TV local news last week.

Clary Loisel presented a paper entitled "Between Myth and Utopia: A Human Search for Carlos Fuentes' *Crystal Frontier*" at the Mid-Atlantic Council on Latin American Studies Conference at the University of Maryland on March 7.

Naomi Lapidus Shin will present a paper entitled "Ella habla vs. Habla: Subject pronouns in Spanish-speaking children's discourse" at the Graduate Student and Faculty Research Conference at The University of Montana on April 5th. At the same conference, Naomi's graduate student from the linguistics program, Sandra Patricia Cano, will present "Yo Jugar: Root Infinitives in Child L2 Spanish." Later in the month (April 11-12), Naomi will attend a workshop on code switching in Tampa, Florida, where she will present her work on the gender of English loanwords in Spanish.