



Greetings from the Chair

Welcome to the 2011-12 academic year and to Adelphi's Languages, Literatures and Cultures Department! As you can see, our name has changed, but our mission is still the same. Our curriculum enables students to acquire and expand their skills in the many languages we offer in a truly multicultural setting.

I am delighted to inform you that the Department maintained solid enrollments last year in all the languages we teach. We have experienced a growth of more than 200% in the last few years! The students at Adelphi appear to be increasingly aware of the importance of achieving proficiency in one or more foreign languages. In fall semester the Chinese and Arabic programs

will begin a Distance Learning project for Level I between the Garden City and the Manhattan campuses. We are all looking forward to this new project. Enrollment in both languages is very solid.

The Italian program has now a full-time professor, Dr. Jonathan Hiller. Thanks to his work the International Studies major has a new Italian language track.

The Language Resource Center has been remodeled, and now we have two multimedia centers.

Our faculty, in addition to their teaching duties, continues doing research while participating in national and international conferences.

We hope that you will use this newsletter to send us word about relevant upcoming activities you may be involved in and also to support the activities of your friends in the department.

The Language Department Faculty and I are available to assist you in your academic matters, so please come and visit us.

On behalf of the LLC faculty I wish you a successful academic year.

—Raysa Amador



New professor of Italian Jonathan Hiller

Adelphi in Madrid!

Offered for the first time from May 27 to June 19, 2011, this three-credit language and culture course combined more than 70 hours of language and culture instruction with guided visits and tours to stunning cities, world-

renowned museums, and monuments. Students lived with Spanish host families, taking an active part in the everyday life of Madrid while immersing themselves in the culture. They also indulged in a traditional Spanish dinner with

a live flamenco dancing show, visited the Santiago Bernabeu Soccer Stadium of the Real Madrid team, and went to tapas bars and cafés.

The course was coordinated by Professor Rakhel Villamil-Acera (cont'd p. 2)

Recommended Reading

In July, former Secretary of State Madeleine Albright and former Senator Chuck Hagel spoke out in *USA Today*, protesting cuts to funding for Foreign Language Studies. They argued that the US's "ability to both confront challenges and exploit opportunities relies heavily on Americans being able to understand and speak less commonly taught languages."

You can read the whole op-ed here: http://www.usatoday.com/news/opinion/forum/2011-07-15-albright-hagel-foreign-languages-budget-cuts_n.htm

Adelphi in Madrid (cont'd from p. 1)

and to judge from the feedback offered on the Language Lounge blog, Professor Villamil-Acera's efforts paid off in dividends!

For a student's-eye view of the trip, we have excerpted for you some of the enrolled students' closing remarks, which first appeared on the Language Lounge blog (http://blogs.adelphi.edu/lang/entry/conclusion_to_madrid_summer_2011):

"After 3 weeks, Rosa Marrazzo has not found much to complain about: 'I loved everything,' she explained. From walking to school to sitting in the park, Rosa really made the most out of her trip. Her favorite site to see was the Temple de Debod, located in El Parque del Oeste, near La Plaza de España.

"Going to school was one of the Nicole Osterhoudt's most memorable experiences

here in Madrid. Being in a culturally diverse environment appealed to Nicole because of all the different cultures that come together under one roof [at the Don Quixote Language Institute]. 'I love the fact that we all came here for one reason, and that one reason is to learn and submerge ourselves into the Spanish culture and language,' she explains.

"Karen really enjoyed the change in atmosphere when it came to transportation and getting around Madrid. 'I have a car at home, so it was a completely different experience to walk everywhere,' she added. Every day Karen walked to and from school, which gave her a new perspective of the culture and how different it is from the culture she is used to.

"As for me [Danielle], my favorite memory of this trip was travelling to

Segovia. Segovia is right on the northern outskirts of Madrid; about twenty minutes by the AVE train. I really enjoyed this trip because Segovia is completely different from Madrid, which gave me a different perspective of Spain as a whole.

"In conclusion, I think we were all pretty surprised in how quickly we adapted to our new surroundings. Although we are all at different levels of Spanish speaking, we all managed to communicate with others to get where we needed to go. This trip turned into such a great learning experience for us to remember for the rest of our lives."

We're pleased to announce that Prof. Villamil-Acera will be offering this important opportunity again in Summer 2012. If you want to improve your Spanish, plan now to join us in Madrid!

Part-time Faculty, Full-time Scholars

Our part-time faculty, dedicated instructors on campus, also pursue numerous professional and pedagogical projects off-campus.

This past Spring, for example, saw Instructor of Modern Greek **Nancy Biska** serving as part of the Task Force for the Development of National Standards for Modern Greek Language Learning. The Task Force met in Madison WI during the 14th Annual conference of the National Council of Organizations of the Less Commonly Taught Languages (NCOLCTL), April 7-10, 2010

and participated in the workshop: "Writing Standards for Specific Languages: Guidelines".

Dr. Marko Miletich, Instructor of Spanish, actively contributes to the scholarship on Translation Studies. For the 42nd Annual Northeast Modern Language Association (NeMLA) Convention in New Brunswick, NJ on April 7-10, 2011, he moderated a panel on "Translation as Performance From *Español* into English," during which two translators translated in front of an audi-

ence who could watch on adjacent screens. Retrospective Think Aloud Protocols were used as well as Camtasia and Translog (linear representation). He also delivered two conference papers: "Translation Studies: Vital for the Humanities" at NeMLA, and "Translation as Interlingual Complicity" at the 23rd Annual Stony Brook Graduate English Conference on March 11, 2011.

Winning Authors Show Skills in Target Language Writing

We're thrilled to announce the winners of our alumni-supported Creative Writing Contest.

In French, first place went to Danielle Greco's *Tes Ombres*. Jennifer Campagnoli took second place for *Parler espagnol, français, et anglais: Mon histoire personnelle*. There was a tie for third place between Binayak Kandel, *Une vie de rêve* and William Reavy, *Si j'avais ma vie de*

rêve, while an Honorable Mention was earned by Kristie Ranchurejee.

In Spanish, Marlene Jacome took first place with *Elena Poniatowska*, Junior Leyba garnered second place with *Dueña de mi Corazón*, and third place went to Jenna Cavuto's *La inmigración de mi familia por parte de mi padre*.

In Italian, two prizes were awarded.

Lisamarie Calandra earned first prize for *La Mia Serenità*, and Lauren Carew took second for her *La vita, L'amore e L'allegria*.

We thank all the students who participated and heartily congratulate the winners! Thanks again, too, to the alumni whose gifts make this contest possible.

Alumnus Steffen Demos Pays Tribute to Adelphi Languages Department with Words and Opportunities

Adelphi Alumnus Steffen Demos '83 recently honored the University and the Department of Languages, Literatures and Cultures with a gift to Adelphi's Foreign Language Endowment. Currently a software developer and president of his own firm, he was motivated to give back as he continues to recognize the assets of his education in languages. The following testimonial is excerpted with his permission from Mr. Demos's letter to Department Chair Raysa Amador.

"While researching an aspect of Arabic grammar, I had been thinking about how Dr. Carbo's class in Advanced Spanish Grammar had given me insight into the topic of grammar in the broader sense. In fact, I enjoyed that course so much that I still have the textbook, and still use it when tutoring those interested in learning Spanish.

"Adelphi was indeed an unforgettable experience for me. Adelphi was an oasis of peace amid many challenges. We lived, at that time, in a neighborhood experiencing a steep economic decline. The home in which I lived was located

across the street from a bar and a house of prostitution, and on the same side of the street as a methadone clinic. My father was an extremely honest and hard-working man, but seriously ill since I was five years of age. My father never finished 8th grade, but he taught himself algebra, trigonometry and electronics, and became a master machinist. It was very painful to see him finish his working years employed part-time in a car wash. He worked there after suffering his second major heart attack because he was not physically able to work full time. Nevertheless, he always maintained his dignity and integrity until his death at age 55.

"One of my fondest Adelphi memories is of how honored my father felt to meet a professor during orientation. I will never forget how proud he felt when he had the privilege of speaking with Dr. James Stais (a fellow Greek). Dr. Stais treated him with such respect. I can say that our visit to Adelphi was the first time we felt like a part of something building towards a bright future. It was the first time we saw a light at the end of

the tunnel. I remember that I wore the same winter coat from grammar school through graduate school at New York University, but that seed of hope planted at Adelphi kept me striving.

"My mother has been a source of unrelenting encouragement and support throughout my life, and to this day, she and I reminisce about Adelphi. I did not want to write so much, but I just wanted to emphasize that a professor often is unaware of what is going on in the personal lives of his or her students. Nonetheless, the great ones have an uncanny capacity to inspire the soul. The professors under whom I had the honor of studying at Adelphi (Dr. Nicolas Carbo, Dr. Neil Miller, Dr. Warren Bratter, Dr. Lisandro Diaz and Dr. James Stais) [...] are of that very calibre. You, Raysa, are also a member of that esteemed group. Though I did not have the pleasure of sitting in your classroom, I am witness to your extraordinary dedication to the foreign language students at Adelphi."

We thank Mr. Demos for his gift, which will help to maintain the strengths of our programs.

Ten Commandments for a Successful Adelphi Career... en français!

Ed. Note: Professor Rudolph's Spring '11 French IV class was asked to write « Ten Commandments for a Successful Career at Adelphi ». We thought you'd enjoy reading a particularly useful set of recommendations.

By Katelyn Murch

Il existe beaucoup de règles à suivre afin d'avoir une carrière réussie à Adelphi mais je vais vous en donner dix.

1. Les professeurs veulent que vous fassiez vos devoirs. Il est certain que vous apprendrez parce que les devoirs, c'est la pratique. Il est essentiel que vous pratiquiez à la maison.
2. Il se peut que le succès vienne avec la participation. Il est important d'assister régulièrement à vos cours. Il vaut mieux que

vous écoutiez en cours.

3. Il est certain que vous oublierez de temps en temps. Pourtant, il est utile d'être préparé pour le cours. Il est nécessaire que vous apportiez toujours vos manuels.
4. Vos parents souhaitent que vous étudiiez pour les examens. Il est normal de détester étudier mais il est nécessaire. Il est impossible de réussir si vous n'étudiez pas.
5. Il n'est pas bon de dormir dans la classe. Il se peut que vous soyez fatigué, mais ce n'est très bon pour votre participation. Il est important de dormir huit heures chaque soir.
6. Il est bon de vérifier votre devoir avant de le donner aux professeurs. Il n'est pas bon d'avoir des erreurs sur vos devoirs. Vos professeurs souhaitent que vous preniez votre temps de faire vos devoirs.
7. Vos parents ont peur que vous soyez en retard aux cours. Il faut que vous vous donniez du temps pour arriver en classe.

Il est certain que vous serez moins stressés quand vous êtes à l'heure.

8. Il est douteux que vous réussissiez si vous avez une mauvaise attitude. Il est nécessaire d'essayer d'être heureux. Il vaut mieux être heureux quand vous faites vos devoirs ou quand vous étudiez.
9. Je souhaite que vous soyez gentils aux étudiants. Il est utile d'être respectueux aux étudiants parce qu'ils pourraient vous aider avec vos travaux de cours. Il est bon d'être amis avec les gens dans votre classe parce que vous vous sentirez plus confortable.
10. Il est important de manger un bon petit déjeuner avant un examen. Il est impossible de vous concentrer dans la classe si vous ne mangez pas. Il est possible que vous fassiez mieux dans la classe quand vous avez le ventre plein.

**DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGES,
LITERATURES AND CULTURES**

ADELPHI UNIVERSITY

Room 216 C Science Building
1 South Avenue
Garden City, NY 11530

Phone: 516-877-4050
Fax: 516-877-4047
E-mail: amador@adelphi.edu

Check out our new blog!

“The Language Lounge”

<http://blogs.adelphi.edu/lang/>

Addressee

Address Line 1

Address Line 2

City, State, Zip



Prof. Rudolph's Emergence of Modern France II class at Belgian bistro Waterzooi following AU's performance of Jean Giraudoux's La Folle de Chaillot at the AU's Performing Arts Center last November

Meritorious Students of Languages and International Studies Honored Last April

On April 14, 2011, the Department of Languages, Literatures and Cultures and the International Studies Program held a joint awards ceremony. The students inducted into the national honor societies were:

Italian Honor Society, Gamma Kappa Alpha: Lisa Bilancia, Lisamarie Calandra, Nick Dragone, Carmela Gandolfo, Allana Rupnarine, Jennifer Scarnati, Alessandra Thornton

French Honor Society, Pi Delta Phi: Sarafina Bush, Jennifer Campagnoli

Spanish Honor Society, Sigma Delta Pi: Natalie Andrade, Marlene Jacome

We were also delighted to award the following to our best students:

Italian Book Awards: Lisa Bilancia, Nick Dragone, Allana Rupnarine, Jennifer Scarnati, Alessandra Thornton

Dolores Roethel Award in Spanish Literature: Marlene Jacome

Departmental Honors in Spanish: Jennifer Campagnoli, Eliza Opalczynska, Alessandra Thornton

On behalf of the Department, congratulations, félicitations and felicitaciones to all!



Prof. Wadhera fêtes new members of Pi Delta Phi



Profs. Hiller and Urgo welcome new members of Gamma Kappa Alpha



Profs. Carbo and Villamil-Acera induct new members of Sigma Delta Pi