



Greetings from the Chair

Greetings once again, alumni and friends of the Department of Languages, Literatures and Cultures. As we come to the end of the school year, it is good to reflect on where we are and where we have been. We must remember that today more than ever the skills and knowledge acquired by studying languages are "...[the] soft skills valued in leaders [which] are by products of foreign language acquisition...". (Google 2018) In this newsletter, the Department presents the accomplishments of our students as well as the success of our faculty members. Well, the depart-

ment welcomed some exceptional new colleagues this academic year, Dr. Ana Simón-Alegre and Dr. Sara Aponte-Olivieri. They have brought a fresh dose of energy and enthusiasm to the department. The new Multilingual Experience Club is now active and ready to start under the advisement of Dr. Simón-Alegre who is also coordinating the Level 4 Spanish course. Dr. Aponte-Olivieri has taken on the duty of our Placement Exam and coordination of the Level 1 through 3 language courses! In the meantime, we have some sad-good news to share, the departure of our dear

colleague Dr. Nicole Rudolph who will be joining the Honors College in the capacity of Academic Director. She will be sorely missed but we are celebrating Nicole's new journey! Lastly, I am pleased to share that Portuguese will be offered by Professor Miller after a hiatus. It's great to have him teaching for us again!

During Fall 2018, I will be on sabbatical and it is for that reason that I would like to welcome Dr. Priya Wadhwa as Acting Chair. She will be running a very busy Department! And now, we would like to ex-

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Professor Hiller receives tenure and promotion



Professor Hiller with fellow panel members at the American Literary Translators Association Convention in Minneapolis, MN, October 2018

It is with great pride that we wish to share that following the meeting of the Board of Trustees in June, 2018, and in accordance with the recommendations of the Faculty Committee on Retention, Tenure and Promotion (FCRTP), Dr. Jonathan Hiller was granted tenure and promotion to Associate Professor in Italian. He is the third member of our departmental faculty to reach tenure in the past four years, a testament to the strength of our department and the university's commitment to making top-notch language instruction a priority for years to come. Professor Hiller looks forward to continued growth and service to the department and thanks his colleagues for their constant support during his years to date at Adelphi.

The Multilingual Experience Club Makes it Official

The Multilingual Experience club, led by a group of students including Keyshaun Scott, Julia Griffo, and Kyle Voigt, has been awarded official club status by the Adelphi Center for Student Involvement. They have organized several cultural events over the past year, including an International Bingo Night and a Multilingual Translation Night. The club meets every two weeks on Thursdays. Students from all walks of the university are encouraged to participate with this energetic, passionate group of students.



International Bingo Night Activity held during the past academic year

Greetings from the Chair (cont'd) and Departmental News

tend our sincere gratitude to Carmen for all the work she does for the students and the Department! We wish her well.

Enjoy our stories!

On behalf of the Department of Languages, Literatures and Cultures, I would like to thank you for your continued support, and I hope you will stay in touch.

Last but not least, I would like to share this poem with you which captures the beauty of learning languages, by Olivia McMahon.

*Learning a language
Is like doing a jigsaw puzzle
Of a million pieces
With a picture that keeps changing.
It's like getting lost in a foreign city without a map.
It's like playing tennis without a ball,
like being an ant in a field of grasshoppers.
It's like being an acrobat with a broken leg,
An actor without a script,
A carpenter without a saw,
A storyteller without a middle or an end.
But then gradually
It's like being out in the early morning
with the mists lifting.
It's like a chink of light under a door,
like finding the glove you were looking for,
Catching the train you thought you were going to miss,
Getting an unlooked-for present,
Exchanging a smile.
And then one day it's like riding a bicycle
Very fast downhill.*

-Dr. Raysa E. Amador, Chair
(on sabbatical, Fall 2018)

Departmental News

We would now like to share some of the recent highlights of the department's varied activities including faculty research, student achievements, study abroad programs and curriculum developments.

Faculty Spotlight

This year, **Dr. Sara Aponte-Olivieri** taught several courses in Spanish at all levels, from introductory to advanced, including Spanish for the Professional World and Spanish for Healthcare Professionals. This fall semester, she will submit the final manuscript of a book on Montaigne and others regarding the Renaissance concept of prudence, with Éditions Garnier.

Dr. Nicolas Carbò taught courses in Advanced Spanish Conversation, Trends and Tendencies in Hispanic America, Intro to Hispanic Literature, Grammar and Composition, and a Seminar in Spanish Literature.

Dr. Jonathan Hiller published his first full-length translation, of I. U. Tarchetti's 1866 novel *Paolina* (Wellesley, Dante University Press). He presented research on the development of Italian anti-Semitism at the 2017 AATI International Conference in Palermo, Italy, and a teacher-training course at the Babilonia Language Institute in Taormina, Italy. Stateside, he chaired a panel and read from a new translation from the novel *Two Loves* by Salvatore Farina at the American Literary Translators Association Annual Conven-

tion in Minneapolis, MN. His current translation project is Emilio Salgari's 1907 science fiction novel, *The Wonders of the Twenty-First Century*. In Summer 2018, he once again served as a reader for the Italian AP Examination in Cincinnati, OH.

Dr. Ana Simón-Alegre published book chapters on Carmen de Burgos (Routledge) and 19th-century Spanish military history (Anthropos), spoke on Castilian country music at the 2018 conference of the International Association for the Study of Popular Music at Vanderbilt University, and presented new research at the NeMLA annual convention in Pittsburgh, PA. She also presented research at The Languages, Literatures, and Cultures Conference at The University of Kentucky at Lexington, in April 2018. Adding to an already crowded schedule, she attended three conferences over the summer in Cáceres, Salamanca, and Riverside, Calif. In January, she has been invited to speak at the MLA Annual Convention in Chicago, IL.

Dr. Priya Wadhera just returned from a yearlong sabbatical during which she was able to focus entirely on her research, and it was a fruitful period, with five conferences, four articles, and five conferences in the works. She spoke at conferences abroad, from the Netherlands to the south of France and Strasbourg, and in the States at Brown University. She also had four articles accepted to peer-reviewed journals in France and in the US.

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Ongoing Scholarship Opportunities

The **Marie-Louise Pesselier Vazquez** Scholarships for French majors were generously created by a devoted professor in honor of her time teaching French at Adelphi. All Sophomore, Junior, and Senior French majors will be considered for the awards. Scholarships are awarded based upon a student's overall grade point average and major grade point average.

The **Robert G. Hartmann Scholarship for Excellence in Spanish** will be once again be available to students beginning in

Academic Year 2018-2019. Students must be Spanish majors who have completed 30 credits in the major, have demonstrated significant financial need, and have at least a 2.7 GPA.

We are extremely grateful to Mr. Hartmann for his boundless generosity.

We continue to offer the **Melvin and Marian Prottas Foreign Language Writing Award**. This award is open to majors in French, Italian, or Spanish, and in recent years, a translation

award has been added as a category alongside the awards in our three primary languages. Sincere thanks to Prof. Dave Prottas for continuing to support this fantastic opportunity.

Lastly, the **Smalley Family Endowment for Italian Language Studies** will be awarded to one outstanding student minor-ing in Italian. Eligible undergraduate students (3.0 minimum GPA) are encouraged to use the fellowship to study abroad. *Grazie ancora, signor Smalley!*

Language Students Win Entry into National Honor Societies, Awards

On Friday, April 27, 2018, we held our Departmental Honors Ceremony, at which we inducted students into language societies and announced the recipients of scholarships and winners of departmental awards. Interim Dean of Arts and Sciences Susan Briziarelli was present and made introductory remarks. We were also delighted to have with us three of our benefactors of generous student scholarships: Mr. Robert Hartmann, alumnus; Professor Maria Hoelzli, and Professor David Prottas.

The following students were inducted into language honor societies:

French Honor Society, Pi Delta Phi: Catherine Olsen, Arianna Thomas (*inducted by Prof. Rudolfp*)

Italian Honor Society, Gamma Kappa Alpha: Amanda Bruchhauser, Giovanna Stanco, Ninfa Vicari, (*inducted by Prof. Hiller*)

Spanish Honor Society, Sigma Delta Pi: Justin Bergson, Joy Douglas, Lauren Donahue, Mariana Steinbuch, Kristina Goncalves, Arianna Thomas, Seth Noboa, Alisha Varughese, Ivan Sakkal, Matthew Petrouskie, Moriah Rastegar,

Dr. Sara Aponte-Olivieri (*inducted by Profs. Amador, Carbo & Simón-Alegre*)

Scholarships and departmental awards were given to the following outstanding students:

Smalley Fellowship in Italian Studies: Ryan Deisler

Blaise LoGiudice Award in Italian: Giovanna Stanco

Mary Louise Vazquez Award in French: Catherine Olsen

Paul Langellier Award in French: Zouheir Bekdache

Lucienne Petit Prize for Excellence in French: Zouheir Bekdache

The Robert Hartmann Scholarship for Excellence in Spanish: Arianna Thomas

Ted and Erika Spyropoulos Scholarships for Modern Greek: Joseline Guaman, Melody Knickerbocker, Katya Garashchenko

Ruth Richardson Awards for Excellence in Spanish: Lauren Donahue, Kristina Goncalves, Seth Noboa, Alisha Varughese

Prottas French Writing Contest : 1st: Miranda Balash; 2nd: Amanda Opromolla; 3rd: Cristina Panagi.

Prottas Italian Writing Contest:

1st: Amanda Opromolla; 2nd: Ninfa Vicari; 3rd: Amanda Bruchhauser.

Prottas Spanish Writing Contest:

1st: Matthew Petrouskie; 2nd: Justin Bergson; 3rd: Remy Rodriguez Wang

Congratulations to all of our amazing students!



Arianna Thomas with Benefactor Robert Hartmann



Student Inductees of Gamma Kappa Alpha with Prof. Hiller



Giovanna Stanco with Benefactor Maria Hoelzli



Inductees of Sigma Delta Pi, including Prof. Aponte-Olivieri with Profs. Amador, Carbo, and Simón-Alegre



Winners of the Spyropoulos Scholarship with Professor Biska

Spanish Film Festival

In the Fall 2017 semester, the department, led by Dr. Simón-Alegre, organized a Spanish film festival on the theme “Celebrate Diversity!” Films included as part of the festival included *Bajari: Gypsy Barcelona*, *Neruda*, *Mãe só há uma*, *Carga Sellada*, and *La Yuma*.

This series was well-attended and continued a long tradition of such festivals on campus, showing our faculty’s commitment to bringing contemporary stories of modern life throughout the Spanish-speaking world to Adelphi.

The festival was made possible with the support of Pragda, the Secretary of State for Culture of Spain, and its Program for Cultural Cooperation with U.S. Universities.

Departmental News (cont'd)

Faculty Spotlight" (cont'd from page 2)

She also holds positions of leadership on a national level in her profession. In January 2018, she attended the Modern Language Association annual convention in New York City in her capacity as Forum Delegate for the Division on Twentieth- and Twenty-first Century French Languages, Literatures and Cultures. In April, she played an organizational role in the annual 20th- and 21st-century French and Francophone Studies Colloquium where she also spoke. She is honored to have been asked to serve on the *comité scientifique* for next year's conference in which capacity she is working with a small team to select abstracts and organize panels for the colloquium, which routinely draws 400 scholars from throughout the French and Francophone world. She is very grateful for the sabbatical leave she was granted to pursue her research so intensely. While Dr. Amador is on sabbatical, she is delighted to step in to the role of Acting Chair.

Dr. Raysa Amador, in addition to her myriad duties as chair and stalwart promoter of language study on campus, taught a number of courses for the department, including Spanish Cross-Cultural Concepts, Caribbean Culture and Civilization, and the Development of Hispanic-American Identity. She plans on using her time on sabbatical to pursue multiple research projects, and we wish her a restful and productive time away from the university.

Together, the faculty of the DLLC have been working on the following programs throughout the year: The Certificate in Translation Studies, which has been approved and has begun accepting students; the Italian Concentration for International Studies; and finally, revisions to courses for approval within Adelphi's new General Education program.

All of this work would not be possible without **Ms. Carmen Castellón**, our dedicated administrator, our adjunct faculty, and so many outstanding students who make the department a vibrant place to learn, research, and communicate.

Student News

Daniella Volaric, an alumna and former Adelphi French student, has now begun medical school at the University of Poznan in Poland. Her love for Europe, developed over a trip to France on the TAPIF program for teaching English in Tergnier, is a major reason for this decision. She credits the Adelphi Languages program for giving her the curiosity and courage to take this exciting journey in Poland.

Ninfa Vicari, a third-year Italian minor, also studied abroad. Connecting with her origins in Sicily (she is a heritage speaker of the Sicilian dialect) she went to Taormina, Italy, where she spent six weeks intensively studying the Italian language at the Babilonia Language Institute. There, she lived with a host family, traveled extensively throughout the island, and made lasting friends and connections in Italy and other countries. This experience was in part a reason for which she chose to change her major to International Studies; she is now focusing on international business with a language concentration in Italian.

Amanda Opromolla, an International Studies major with a concentration in French who also minored in Italian, completed stints studying abroad both in France and in Italy, and became interested in the wine industry. Returning to campus following these experiences, her senior internship program was with a major New York wine producer and importer. Amanda has now graduated and we wish her all the best!



Amanda Opromolla

Arianna Thomas is a senior Spanish, French, and STEP major. This past summer she had the opportunity to study abroad program in France, where she attended the Institute for American Universities. She took courses that explored the works of various French writers and artists. She lived in the elegant southern French city of Aix-en-Provence. Upon her return, she shared with us what a wonderful experience she had, and encouraged her fellow students to take full advantage of the rich opportunities provided by a robust study abroad experience.



Arianna Thomas

I hope you have enjoyed reading our recent updates on faculty and students and invite you to share your experiences with us. If you have a moment, feel free to reach out to us via e-mail, to amador@adelphi.edu and let us know what you would like to read in future issues.

As always, you can keep up with the department at our website,

languages.adelphi.edu

for more information, or stop by for a visit at Alumnae Hall 110.

¡Hasta la próxima!

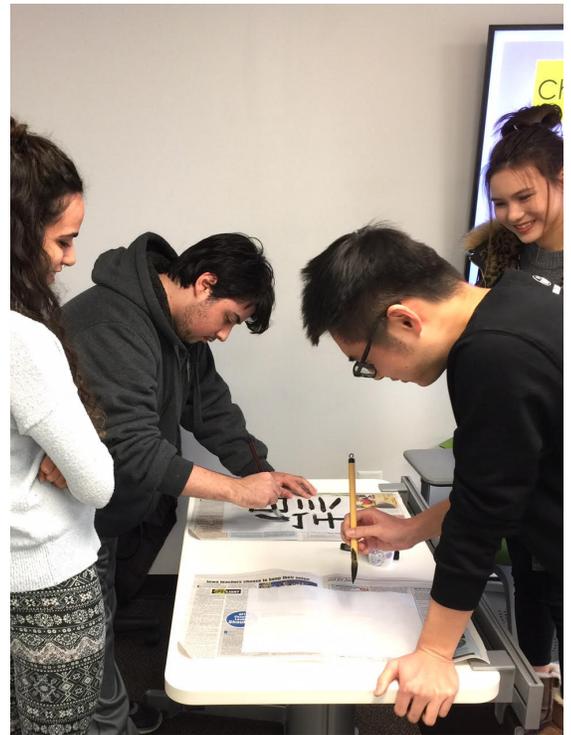
Raysa Amador

Professor of Spanish, Chair

Adelphi Language Students, Active on Campus and in the City



Students from Professor Hiller's Italian classes at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, taking in the Michelangelo Exhibition



Japanese calligraphy event on campus led by Prof. Mieko Sperbeck



Chinese 111 and 121 field trip to Flushing, Queens



Students attending the Spanish film festival

**DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGES,
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*Professor Simón-Alegre's Spanish Today class
attending Repertorio Español's production of
El Quijote*

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Address Line 2

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Food for Thought

WHERE THE JOBS ARE

As the Earth feels ever smaller, demand for translators and interpreters skyrockets

- The number of people employed in the translation and interpretation industry has doubled in the past seven years.
- Rather than replacing them, technology has helped translators and interpreters improve their performance.

Growth in the industry

The number of people employed in the translation and interpretation industry has doubled in the past seven years, and the number of companies in the industry has jumped 24 percent in that same time period, according to the American Translators Association, citing data from the Department of Labor. Through 2024, the employment outlook for those in the business is projected to grow by 29 percent, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

"As the economy becomes more globalized and businesses realize the need for translation and interpreting to market their products and services, the opportunities for people with advanced language skills will continue to grow sharply," said David Rumsey, president of the ATA, adding that the association predicts the largest growth is within contract positions, giving workers and companies more flexibility.

While salaries within the industry vary, those who specialize in a difficult language can easily bring in six figures annually.

From CNBC's on-line segment "Where the Jobs Are," July 2017

Source:

<http://www.cnbc.com/2017/07/07/as-the-earth-feels-ever-smaller-demand-for-translators-and-interpreters-skyrockets.html>