



## Greetings from the Chair

As we get settled into our summer, I wanted to thank all of you, faculty, staff, and students, for making the year so successful. Once again, we have participated in a full list of activities, events, accomplishments, and honors.

Much has happened in our Department, our students continue exploring the world, Catherine Olsen, double-major in History and French, has been accepted to the Teaching Assistant Program in France! Participating in the TAPIF program will allow her to live and teach in France next year. She is our fourth French major graduate in the past three years to apply for and receive this prestig-

ious award. Better still, her assignment is in the gorgeous Champagne region! She presented at Research Day on her thesis which analyzed how France's memory of World War II has changed as time has passed. Matt Petrouskie, a double-major Business/Spanish, has been accepted to the *English Language and Culture Assistants* program sponsored by the Ministry of Education in Spain. The English Language and Culture Assistants provides university students and graduates, native speakers of English, with the opportunity to work in Spain supporting English teachers. Matt will have the opportunity to experience the Spanish pub-

lic education system firsthand as well as the culture and language that comprise it. It will undoubtedly be a fulfilling professional and personal experience and a perfect complement to his studies here in Adelphi's Department of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures! For the fourth time, we offered a Study Abroad course with a week in Madrid and Barcelona, "Social Movements in Spain", which was led by Dr. Ana Simón-Alegre and Dr. Sara Aponte-Olivieri who joined our students on the trip.

I am very proud to share that Dr. Priya Wadhera served as interim Chair for Fall 2018 during my sabbatical, I want

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## Adelphi's Spanish Faculty Lead Spring Break Trip to Spain

We are thrilled to share that during spring break, Professors Simón-Alegre and Aponte-Olivieri led a full cohort of students on a trip to Spain as part of their Social Movements in Spain course, which had supplementary meetings throughout the semester. Traveling in Madrid and Barcelona with several side excursions, the course focused on the important role of social movements in the development of Spanish identity, focusing on the 2nd Republic, the Franco Era, and the transition to democracy, LGBTQ rights, and literature and cinema of the late 20th century. Many thanks to our wonderful Spanish faculty for creating this fantastic opportunity for our advanced Spanish students to immerse themselves in an intellectually engaging and rewarding travel experience that gave our students a true sense of what global learning means! Enjoy a few photos from this amazing journey and join us on our next faculty-led adventure!



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

to use this opportunity to once more express our gratitude for her work and work in the name of the students and the Department.

Other happy news, we are proposing a new major in Languages and Intercultural Studies for Fall 2021. This new major will allow students to study two languages.

Now, join me in welcoming a new member of the Department, Nuvia's son, James Geovany Guevara, who was born April 21, 2019 at 9:44 am, weighted 7, 1/2 pounds and measured 21"!

At this moment, a note of thanks to the behind-the-scenes stars: huge thanks to Ms. Carmen Castellón, our Administrative Assistance for her professionalism and patience in keeping the department running smoothly. Thanks also to our tutors, Arianna, Giovanna, Julia, Matt, and Catherine and to our student-help Julia and Keyshaun for their dedication.

As you will see in the following pages, we have accomplished much during the year! We are a growing department, and we are growing in the right direction towards an education that provides understanding and tolerance, and that values human happiness in any languages and any culture. And, please remember that we are always glad to hear from you, stop by to visit us or reach out by e-mail at [amador@adelphi.edu](mailto:amador@adelphi.edu). We are fortunate to have you,

Dr. Raysa E. Amador,  
Professor of Spanish  
Chair

Department of Languages, Literatures and Cultures

### 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. She is revising the final manuscript of a book on Montaigne and others regarding the Renaissance concept of prudence, with Éditions Garnier.

**Dr. Nicolas Carbo** taught Spanish Level IV, Advanced Spanish Conversation, Trends and Tendencies in Hispanic America, Intro to Hispanic Literature, Grammar and Composition. He also led recreational courses in ballroom dance, one of his signature contributions to student life over many years at Adelphi.

**Dr. Jonathan Hiller** taught a new course in the First-Year Seminar Program last fall on Science Fiction in Italian Literature and Cinema, taking his students to Manhattan to meet the author of this year's Adelphi Freshman Reads book, *Weapons of Math Destruction*. The course inspired him to translate an early Italian sci-fi novel, Emilio Salgari's *The Wonders of the Twenty-First Century* (1907). Additionally, he taught Seminar in Italian Opera, which included an excursion with students to see *La bohème* at the Metropolitan Opera House and meet a cast member in December. In the spring semester he attended the AAC&U General Education Conference as part of his contributions to enhancing and reforming this aspect of the student experience. He continues to put his skills as an interpreter into practice with the New York State Unified Court System. This summer, he will return to Cincinnati as a reader for the AP Italian Language and Culture Examination.

**Dr. Ana Simón-Alegre's** busy year included having refereed book chapter accepted for the collection *Crises on Death in the His-*

*panic World* (Peter Lang) and co-edited a bilingual edition of Wladimir Chávez Vacas' *¡Oh Dios mío! ¡Qué guapo es el asesino de papa!*. She also gave presentations of her research at three conferences: a conference on women's writing in the 19<sup>th</sup> century in Long Beach, CA (entitled "Tracking the female 'self' and the author 'self' in Correspondence in the Late 19<sup>th</sup> century"); the Northeast Modern Languages Association in Washington, DC ("Unique Literary Friendships from Concepción Gimeno de Flaquer to Carmen Laforet", with Aurélie Vialette); and the MLA Annual Convention in Chicago ("Queer Women in Peninsular Spanish Literature").

She also won an American Association of Teacher of Spanish and Portuguese (AATSP) Travel Stipend for Research Abroad for summer 2019 and an Adelphi Internal Faculty Development Grant. Thanks to these awards she will be able to conduct research in Mexico on the period when the Spanish writer Concepción Gimeno de Flaquer (1850-1919) was present in that country (1883-1890) writing and advocating for increased educational opportunities for women.

In the fall of 2019, **Dr. Priya Wadhera** returned from a year-long sabbatical during which she participated in five conferences in the US and in Europe, placed four articles in peer-reviewed journals, and had five conferences on the horizon. As Acting Chair that semester, she was delighted to support a bustling department serving hundreds of students in several programs. She greatly appreciates of the dedication shown by her colleagues, the devotion of the students, and the invaluable assistance Carmen provided over her semester stewardship.

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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 again be available to students in Academic Year

2019-2020. Students must be Spanish majors who have completed 30 credits in the major, demonstrated significant financial need, and attained 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 along-

side 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** is again available to an outstanding Italian student. Eligible undergraduate students (3.0 minimum GPA) and others in the Adelphi community pursuing literary translation of Italian works are encouraged to apply. *Grazie ancora, signor Smalley!*

# Language Students Win Entry into National Honor Societies, Awards

On Friday, April 26, 2019, 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, as was Associate Dean Peter West. We were also delighted to have with us three of our benefactors of generous student scholarships: Mr. Robert Hartmann, alumnus; Mr. Patrick Smalley, 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. Wadhera)

**Italian Honor Society, Gamma Kappa Alpha:** Ryan Deisler (inducted by Prof. Hiller)

**Spanish Honor Society, Sigma Delta Pi:** Zulimar Adames, Salma Aguilar, Stephanie Faldetta, Julia Persaud, Joceline Reyes, Laura Rojas, Priscilla Smith, Martina Tecce, Nuvia Vasquez (inducted by Profs. Amador, Carbo, and Aponte-Olivieri)

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

**Smalley Fellowship in Italian Studies:** Alayna DePalo

**Mary Louise Vazquez Award in French:** Catherine Olsen

**Paul Langellier Award in French:** Catherine Olsen

**The Robert Hartmann Scholarship for Excellence in Spanish:** Salma Aguilar

**Ted and Erika Spyropoulos Scholarships for Modern Greek:** Maria Efkarpidis, Peter Nikolis

**Ruth Richardson Awards for Excellence in Spanish:** Justin Bergeson, Stephania Faldetta, Julia Persaud, Moriah Rastegar, Joceline Reyes, Laura Rojas, Ivan Sakkal, Priscilla Smith, Arianna Thomas, Matthew Petrouskie, Nuvia Vasquez

**Dolores Roethel Award in Spanish Literature:** Justin Bergeson, Ivan Sakkal, Arianna Thomas

**Prottas French Writing Contest :** 1st: Catherine Olsen; 2nd: Catherine Olsen ; 3rd: Alexandra Cancel

**Prottas Spanish Writing Contest:**

1st: Matthew Petrouskie, Julia Tringali & Alyssa Marotta; 2nd: Julia Griffio, Joceline Reyes ; 3rd: Jalesia Williams

*Congratulations to all of our amazing students!*



*Winners of the Ruth Richardson Award for Spanish*



*Alayna DePalo and donor Patrick Smalley*



*Ryan Deisler with Professor Hiller*



*Peter Nikolis with Professor Biska*



*Donor Robert Hartmann, Hartmann Award recipient Salma Aguilar, and Prof. Amador*

## The Multilingual Experience Club in Action

In 2018-2019 Adelphi's languages and culture club, the Multilingual Experience, held events throughout the year. Beyond regular meetings twice a month, they sponsored a variety of fun and engaging activities both on campus and off. From an event celebrating International Translation Day to an excursion to NYC see world-famous Flamenco dancer Sara Baras, to a "Cultural Pictionary" game night on campus, the club offered wonderful opportunities to the Adelphi community to engage with languages in innovative and exciting ways. Thanks so much to Julia Griffio, Keyshaun Scott and Kyle Voight for all their hard work in making this club so vibrant! We look forward to seeing more of your enthusiasm for language and culture next year!

## Departmental News (cont'd)

On the research front in the fall, she had a paper accepted to a conference called “Common Scents: Smells and Social Life in European Literature (1880-1939)” at the Institute of Modern Languages Research at the University of London. In early 2019, Dr. Wadhwa spoke on a panel at the annual convention of the Modern Language Association (MLA) in Chicago. Over spring break, she travelled to the most important annual conference in her field, the 20th- and 21st-Century French & Francophone Studies International Colloquium in Oklahoma City, for which she served as one of four co-organizers, who were especially thrilled to have participants hail from four continents for the first time in the 36-year history of the colloquium. She was invited to serve as Guest Co-Editor of the upcoming volume of Contemporary French & Francophone Studies, a peer-reviewed journal publishing selected conference proceedings.

Dr. Wadhwa also recently received an invitation to collaborate with a Norwegian scholar who heard her speak on the question of absence and the Holocaust in Percec's work at last year's edition of this conference. Geir Uvsløkk of the University of Oslo has asked her to serve on the Advisory Board of on an international project involving conferences and publications, called “Receptions of Memory,” to explore how “[d]emocratic principles and individual human rights” are “under strong pressure” in today's Europe.

Dr. Wadhwa has had two proposals accepted to panels for the Modern Language Association annual convention in Seattle in January 2020. Further, she was just nominated to stand for election to the Executive Committee of the Languages, Literatures, and Cultures “20th- and 21st-Century French Forum” of the MLA.

**Dr. Raysa Amador** edited a volume proposal entitled *Intersectional Feminism in the Age of Transnationalism*, To be submitted to Lexington Books. In addition to the acceptance of my two papers, presented at NeMLA in Washington, DC and at the Congreso Internacionales in Chile, her article “Exploring the Self: Angelina Beloff and Frida Kahlo” was published in the journal *Artes Visuales*.

She has also sent proposals for presentations at Latin American Studies Association Conference, the Modern Languages Association International Conference in Lisbon, Portugal, and an NEH Summer Seminars

and Institutes for Higher Education Faculty, and the Harvard Leadership Conference.

She also accepted the invitation to participate as a member of the prestigious “Congreso Hispanoamericano de Prensa.”

If all this wasn't enough, she was also able to complete the revision of the manuscript for the Intermediate Spanish textbook, *Lengua y Vida*.

Finally, she celebrated her 40th year at Adelphi, for which a celebratory gathering was held with President Riordan!



*Prof. Amador celebrating 40 years at Adelphi!*

Together, the faculty of the DLLC have been working on the following programs throughout the year: The Certificate in Translation Studies, which enjoys robust enrollment, a new major in languages and intercultural studies, the General Education program (for which multiple members serve on committees), and the promotion of the humanities at Adelphi. Finally, all our departmental 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 academic community.

### **Student News**

**Amanda Bruchhauser**, a senior International Studies major in the Italian track, has had quite an end to her Adelphi experience. Beginning with a semester in Florence with the Florence Institute of the Arts, she then returned to campus to finish her coursework and complete an internship for her capstone experience. She interned in Manhattan with the European Union's Delegation at the United Nations, a prestigious and challenging organization to work for. Amanda did excellent work for the EU and may continue into the summer. We wish Amanda all the best as she goes out into the world following graduation!



*Amanda Bruchhauser*

**Joseline Guaman**, an outstanding student in our Translation Certificate program, became interested in court interpretation during this academic year, in which she studied interpretation and advanced translation. To this end, on March 18, 2019 she had the opportunity to visit the Federal Court of the Southern District of New York to experience a few minutes afterwards, a real court case with a live interpreter, Ms. Elizabeth Iliakostas. This experience was immensely enriching now that Joseline has been given this opportunity to know, explore, and interact with several professionals in the field.



*Joseline Guaman at the Federal Courthouse*

**Daniel Murphy**, a student of Prof. He who developed a strong interest for Chinese language and culture during his time at Adelphi, worked this semester at the Chinese Center of Long Island to share his enthusiasm with local children. He has sought out and accepted an offer to take a job in China upon graduation. We wish him all the best!



*Daniel Murphy*

# Adelphi Language Students, Active on Long Island and in NYC!



*Professor Simón-Alegre with students at the Frida Kahlo exhibit at the Brooklyn Museum*



*Professor Amador with Latin American Identity students for a night of Cuban culture at the Cuban Restaurant in Garden City, NY!*



*Professor Hiller and his Opera Seminar students attending La bohème at the Metropolitan Opera House*



*Japanese Rokugo event with Prof. Miyajima  
Fall 2018*

**DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGES,  
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*A visit from master Spanish translator,  
Dr. Esther Allen, to  
Professor Simón-Alegre's Translation Seminar  
December 2018*

Addressee

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## Food for Thought

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# BUSINESS INSIDER

### **April 30, 2019. "The 25 humanities majors with the highest salaries" by Ivan de Luce.**

College majors in the humanities can be some of the most rewarding for students, but who knew they could also lead to great salaries?

Using data that OneClass compiled from Payscale, we found the 25 college majors in the humanities with the highest average mid-career salaries. We also noted early career salaries, possible careers with that major, and a job satisfaction rating for each major. Throughout the list, foreign-language majors proved time and again to be some of the most lucrative, including French, Japanese, Chinese, and Italian.

French language majors earn an average mid-career salary of \$80,200 a year

Italian language majors earn an average mid-career salary of \$87,500 a year.

Japanese language majors earn an average mid-career salary of \$106,400 a year.

Source:

<https://www.businessinsider.com/humanities-majors-that-earn-the-highest-salaries-2019-4>