

LINGUA FRANCA: THE NEWSLETTER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF MODERN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES

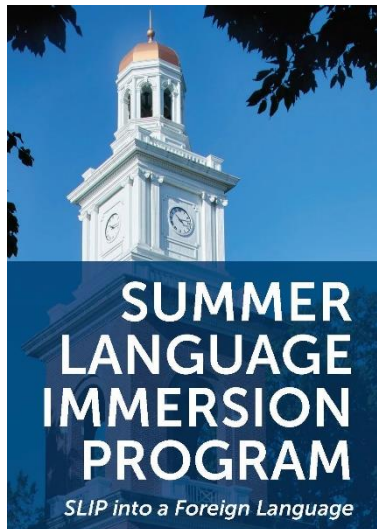
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CHAIR UPDATE: BY DR. ELIZABETH LEWIS

Greetings from Fredericksburg! We are happy to send you our annual update on the wonderful work and activities of our students, faculty and staff of the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures. We are pleased to announce approval of a new minor in Arabic Studies beginning Fall 2019. We are also hosting a Japanese Language Coordinator funded through the Japan Foundation through next year. Our coordinator Minae has been leading informal (non-credit) conversation classes and cultural activities on campus and in the community. Stop by and see us! We'd love to greet you in any language!

DEPARTMENT UPDATE:

We are excited to announce that Modern Languages and Literatures will be offering a Summer Language Immersion Program (SLIP) starting this summer.



SLIP is an eight-week program that helps participants of all ages develop practical, everyday foreign language skills in French, German, and Spanish. Students will also learn about the cultures of the countries in which these languages are spoken, and will use their language skills at lunch with their instructors and in project-based language settings in the afternoon. This program is a wonderful opportunity for students of all ages who want to learn and practice foreign language skills in a safe, beautiful environment.

Students will learn a language from Zero to Intermediate level, that's four semesters worth of regular language courses. It's a great way to fast-track language requirements and start a language major earlier. The program is open to those in their final high school year, in college, mid-career, or retired. Everyone is welcome!

MARY TALKS: Jennifer Hansen-Glucklich

Assistant Professor of German, Jennifer Hansen-Glucklich presented "Rituals of Remembrance: How (and Why) We Remember the Holocaust the way we do", as a part of the Mary Talks Series.

The lecture explored how Holocaust museums use aesthetic, spatial, and ritual techniques to create remembrance within specific national and cultural contexts. Photography exhibits, memorials, architecture, and video art displays are a few of the forms that shape how we remember the Holocaust. This lecture was based on her book, "Holocaust Memory Reframed: Museums and the Challenges of Representation"



Congratulations to our 2018 inductees to the UMW Foreign Language Honor Society, Phi Sigma Iota.

(Pictured left to right, Katarina van Bruggen, Susan Pak, Sarah Repko, Eleni Antzoulatos, Ily Alvarez, Lisa Marie King, Hailey Dennis, Assistant Professor Jennifer Hansen-Glucklich and Logan Burum



UMW Students, Reina Irby, Corinne Kuge, Shelby Sencindiver, Jessica Bradbury, Samantha VanHeest, Maddie Petroskey celebrate a World Cup Win in Paris, France.



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INTERNATIONAL SCAVANGER HUNT: Professor María Laura Bocaz helped to arrange for 16 English language learners from Lafayette Upper Elementary School in Fredericksburg to come to the UMW Campus for an international scavenger hunt in Combs Hall. Office doors on the second floor had signs with flags from the professors' native countries with the languages they speak. The students went from door to door meeting professor and learning how far their language skill can take them! After the hunt, they had lunch, got a mini tour of campus and checked out a dorm room.



Local ESL students take part in a scavenger hunt in Combs Hall. (Suzanne Rossi)



Career Forum Guest Speakers: Jennifer Bangoura, Kaitlin Smart, Caitriona Cobb, Anna Lowery and Abigail Pare

2019 CAREERS IN MODERN LANGUAGES FORUM: UMW Alumni, Jennifer Bangoura, Kaitlin Smart, Caitriona Cobb, Anna Lowery and Abigail Pare, were guest speakers at our Career Forum where they discussed how to utilize your language skills after graduation. Each incorporated a second language into their next phase after graduation through working in the medical field, IT Management, Career Services, and in Education as an Adjunct Professor and graduate student. Thank you for taking the time to share your experience with us.

TOMA MI MANO – HOLD MY HAND PROGRAM: For a second year, Spanish Majors and Minors volunteered in our "Toma mi mano/Hold my Hand" program, helping kindergarteners at Hugh Mercer Elementary School get settled in their new learning environment during the first two weeks of class. This year, Spanish Major Marlén Reyes Silva assisted Professor Bocaz in leading an awesome group of volunteers. Thank you Marlén and everyone who got involved.



From left to right: Student Leader Marlén Reyes-Silva, Sarah Patterson, Jamie Holder and Claire Lewis



Two GDR-era cars, a Trabant & Wartburg, on display in front of Combs Hall.

GERMAN WEEK EVENTS:

We hosted two presentations this year. Eddie Ide from the Berlin Airlift Veterans Association gave three talks on "Saving a City" that coincided with an exhibition "The Berlin Airlift 1948-49 in the basement of Combs Hall. His main sentiment "Freedom isn't free" underlined the importance of the Trans-Atlantic relationships between Germany and the United States. Marcel Rotter, Associate Professor of German, analyzed the importance of eight objects in the everyday life of East Germans. His presentation extended the focus of the exhibition "Totally East / Voll der Osten" in Combs Hall. Both events were made possible through the generous support of the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany.

FLAVA 2018 CONFERENCE

Through a generous donation of UMW alumna Sheila Cockey, Spanish major **Amy Pepkin** was able to attend the annual conference of the **Foreign Language Association of Virginia (FLAVA)** in Williamsburg, VA. Amy is interested in early language learning and present at the FLAVA Spring conference in Lexington, VA on her experiences with indigenous languages in Guatemala. She is currently completing an honors thesis on this topic under the guidance of Professor Campos-Dintrans.



Amy Pepkin, David Alcazar and Professor Campos-Dintrans at the FLAVA Conference.



Arabic Language Students: Chase Lacy, Gail Crunkhorn, Hannah Rothwell and Mackenzie Poust

MODEL ARAB LEAGUE CONFERENCE:

On Saturday, November 17, 2018, four students of Arabic (**Gail Crunkhorn, Chase Lacy, Hannah Rothwell and Mackenzie Poust**) travelled to Georgetown University to participate in the **Model Arab League Conference**. They represented the state of Palestine in both the Council on Social Affairs and the Council of Palestinian Affairs. As part of these groups, they discussed issues important to the region and developed potential policies to benefit both Palestinian people and the rest of the Arab world.

Modern Languages and Literatures Faculty Awards and Publications:

Marcel Rotter, Associate Professor of German, received the Ronald Horwege Award for Outstanding Service to the Profession from the Virginia chapter of the American Association of Teachers of German.

Maysoon Al-Sayed Ahmad, Lecturer of Arabic, Published a textbook, Arabic for Non-Native Speakers: Level One

Penny Causarano, Adjunct Instructor of Chinese, received the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) Distance Learning (DL) Special Interest Group (SIG) Award for Excellence in Online Teaching for grades K-12.