The Hispanic Studies Department is thrilled to welcome no less than five new full-time faculty members for the 2010-2011 Academic Year as well as another for the Fall of 2011. They bring with them experience, energy and fresh ideas as the department continues to expand and strengthen its renowned undergraduate and graduate programs.

### Assistant Professor Mariana Amato

joins us from Sarah Lawrence College in New York. She received her PhD from New York University in 2009 after completing a Licenciatura in Literary Theory at the University of Buenos Aires.

Dr. Amato specializes in Latin American literature and intellectual history of the Southern Cone, including Brazil, from the nineteenth, twentieth and twenty-first centuries. Her work features a strong interdisciplinary approach, with a particular interest in psychoanalysis and political philosophy. She is currently working on a project that explores figures of the animal and the flesh in Latin American fiction of the 20th century, through the framework of biopolitics.

### Assistant Professor Moisés Castillo

comes to UK most recently from Trinity College in Hartford CT.

Dr. Castillo completed his doctoral work at the University of Minnesota in 2000, after receiving a degree in Philosophy at the University of Granada. His main research interests are Golden Age and Colonial or Early Modern Literatures, with an emphasis on Transatlantic issues. Currently, he is working on the representation of “El Otro” in Cervantes’ comedias.
Dear Colleagues and Friends of Hispanic Studies:

When the National Research Council (NRC) rankings released the results of its study of more than 5,000 doctoral programs in the United States in the fall of 2010, I was thrilled to learn that UK’s Department of Hispanic Studies fared so well, ranking roughly as number seven in the country! Hispanic Studies is also one of the three top-ranked doctoral programs at UK, together with English and Public Administration, all of which scored in the top 25% of the NRC study. This is great news indeed. Nonetheless, since this report is released only once every 15 years, it is vital that we ask ourselves: what does Hispanic Studies need to do to sustain its program quality until the next NRC ranking comes along and what needs to be in place in order for our department to rank higher?

The NRC is a data-based report and Hispanic Studies did very well on the statistical survey portion, particularly in research productivity, which was a crucial element in the NRC rankings. We are a research-driven department, and faculty publications have typically been one of our strengths, as the Stonybrook report corroborates. Time-to-degree and diversity of faculty and students are areas that also gave us high NRC rankings. However, there is room for improvement with regard to reputational rankings, which have us below the median. We have strengthened the mentoring of our graduate students and made extra efforts to ensure that our students complete their PhD in a timely manner, especially at times when our faculty roster was small and lacking specialists in key fields. I’d like to take this opportunity to reiterate a critical point. As you will see in these pages, we have managed to recruit stellar graduate students who come on scholarships and who wish to work with specific professors, which allows us to excel as a program. This year, thanks to our NRC rankings, we received additional funds from the Graduate School, which helped our graduate students advance in their careers. Yet, our TA stipends are simply not competitive enough, falling well below the benchmark for similarly-ranked programs. Our faculty is painfully aware of the fact that a highly-ranked program such as ours could lose its status if TA stipends do not increase significantly and the graduate program does not receive the appropriate amount of institutional support. The coming year will bring a much broader discussion of this and other issues about our graduate and undergraduate programs as we begin a self-study in preparation for the departmental review.

The College of Arts and Sciences, the Graduate School, and the Office of the Provost have supported our department by allowing us to replenish faculty positions and to augment our number of lecturers. As you will see in this issue of El Pregonero, last year Hispanic Studies hired two new Assistant Professors, Dr. Mariana Amato (Latin American Studies) and Dr. Moisés Castillo (Golden Age & Colonial). We also hired three new Lecturers, Dr. Manuel Villalba, Dr. Clara Pascual-Argente, and Dr. Heather Campbell-Speltz. This year we were able to recruit Dr. Carmen Moreno-Nuño (Contemporary Peninsular Literature & Culture), who will join us as an Associate Professor in the Fall of 2011. We are convinced that these recent hires will contribute greatly to our teaching and research mission, enhancing our continued success as a department. I am particularly proud of the accomplishments of our students and faculty, whose performance and productivity in teaching, research, and service deserves high recognition indeed.

It is a pleasure to inform our readers of changes and developments in Hispanic Studies. We would like to hear of your current activities and accomplishments so that we can share them through our newsletter. Please accept my sincere thanks for your interest in our academic endeavors and your support.

Dr. Ana Rueda
Professor and Chair
Mariana Amato has several articles published or forthcoming. Her article “Escrito desde un cuerpo: estética de la dolencia en Wasabi de Alan Pauls” appeared in Estudios 17:33 (enero-junio 2009): 99-125. Her essay “El arte de la naturalidad: el cine y sus espectros en la literatura de Quiroga” will be included in a special volume on excentric writers from Uruguay, Los raros uruguayos: nuevas miradas, coordinated by Javier Uriarte and Valentina Litman and published in Cahiers de Li.Ri.Co No.5, Université Paris 8. In October of 2010 she presented “Mutilated Life: On Mario Bellatin’s Narrative” at the Symposium on Latin American and Carribean Studies at Transylvania University. She also organized a panel with Lena Burgos-Lafuente of SUNY Stony Brook entitled “Critical Journeys: Travel and Writing in Latin America,” in which she presented her paper “Escrito desde un cuerpo: enfermedad y viaje en Wasabi de Alan Pauls.”


In November of 2010, he represented the University of Kentucky as part of a team visiting ISA (International Study Abroad) programs in Madrid, Granada and Seville. He served as Interim Chair for the 2009-2010 academic year, was Director of Graduate Studies for AY 2010-2011, and serves as an alternate member of the Humanities and Arts Academic Area Advisory Committee.

Alan V. Brown presented “Deconstructing student proficiency and university FL course grades” at the American Association for Applied Linguistics Conference in Chicago, IL, March, 26-29, 2011. The paper discussed current research from UK’s SPA 210 and 211 classes relative to the relationship between grades and proficiency. He recently published a review of Anímate by Dominguez, Rusch, Caycedo Garner in Modern Language Journal, 94, 2, 366-368. He also was asked to present Spanish/English phonetic contrasts and cultural issues speech language pathologists may face in working with Hispanic children to the students of the Senior Seminar in Advanced Phonetics (CD 588) in March of this year. Dr. Brown led a 4-week KIIS service learning trip to Ecuador May 2010 with 28 students from universities across the state.

Heather Campbell-Speltz has presented two papers at conferences in the past year. Her paper “The Changing Face of Falcón’s Feminism” was presented at the Southeastern Coastal Conference on Languages and Literature, April 1-2, 2010 in Statesboro, GA. She presented “Where’s the fuego, dude?” Code Switching, Language Learning and Cultural Stereotyping in Judy Schachner’s Skippyjon Jones series” at the Far West Popular Culture Conference in Las Vegas, NV March 11-13, 2011.

Susan Carvalho continues in her post as Associate Provost for International Programs and in 2009 was named a Presidential Fellow by the Association of International Education Administrators. She presented her study "Feo, fuerte y
Spanish Club. He coordinated the Spanish areas of the Kentucky World Language Festival in 2010 and will serve as the advisor to the recently reactivated chapter of the foreign language honor society Phi Sigma Iota. He was a finalist for the Provost’s Outstanding Teacher Award and was honored by UK’s Department of Education at their ceremony honoring “Teachers Who Make a Difference.”


**Yanira Paz** continues as the Director of Elementary Language Instruction. She was Interim Chair of the Department during a portion of Summer 2010 and Director of Undergraduate Studies for the Academic Year 2010-2011. She continues to work on two research projects: *In Search of a Poetic Grammar: The Debate on Language in Contemporary Spanish American Literature*, a book-length study of reflections on language and linguistics by major Spanish American writers during the twentieth century, and *Hispanic Heritage and Oral History in Kentucky*. The purpose of this project is to document the Hispanic heritage of immigrant workers and their experiences in the state of Kentucky by means of recorded oral interviews. A sample of this project will be available soon through the Louis Nunn Center for Oral History, University of Kentucky.

**Ana Rueda** received a Sabbatical Research Award from UK for the 2009-2010 academic year. Her book, *El retorno / El reencuentro: La inmigración en la literatura hispano-marroquí*, was published in 2010 and was selected as Book of the Week by Radio Exterior España. Dr. Rueda was interviewed for the program “Un idioma sin fronteras” in September. She also published four articles in 2009 and 2010: “La visión suprema de la guerra en *La media noche*: Valle-Inclán, Clausewitz y Artefius,” *España Contemporánea* 22.2 (released Spring 2011): 29-55; “El dolor de la guerra: Cronistas de la campaña de Marruecos” *Actas del II...*
Focus on Faculty

Enrico M. Santí gave the inaugural lecture at the “Around Blanco and Campos de Paz Colloquium” at Stanford University in February, 2010. In October 2009, he gave the keynote address at last year’s MIFIL Conference in Gueeville, S.C., and in October 2010 gave another keynote address at the “Poesía y Poética” Conference in Puebla, Mexico, on the centennial of Cuban poet José Lezama Lima. In November he participated in a panel on Octavio Paz at the Guadalajara Feria Internacional del Libro and in April 2011 will a guest lecturer at several universities in Santiago de Chile where he will speak on his work on Pablo Neruda. With Nivia Montenegro, Santí has just published the first critical edition of Guillermo Cabrera Infante’s classic Cuban novel Tres tristes tigres. Dr. Santí is currently on sabbatical leave, partly supported by a grant from Mexico’s CONACULTA, hard at work on his intellectual biography of Octavio Paz.

Edward F. Stanton published an article titled “Virgenes y promiscuos: lengua, poesía y traducción” in Crítica, Vol. XXX, No. 130 (January-February 2009), which was the conferencia magistral for the IX Congreso Internacional sobre Poesía y Poética at the Benemérita Universidad Autónoma de Puebla, Mexico. In the Fall of 2009, he hosted a symposium titled “Goya at the Equinox II,” in which Prof. Natasha Staller of Amherst College delivered a keynote lecture and Prof. Stanton’s students read papers; Dr. Noemí Lugo (voice) and Prof. Dieter Hennings (guitar) of the School of Music sang and played compositions inspired by the work of Francisco Goya. In the Spring of 2010, Prof. Stanton traveled to Egypt in search of manuscripts of Hispano-Arabic and Hispano-Judaic jarchas in one of Cairo’s few remaining synagogues. In the summer, with the help of a research grant from the Spanish Ministry of Culture, he studied Goya’s work in the Gabinete de Dibujos y Estampas at the Museo Nacional del Prado in Madrid. On July 21, 2010, Prof. Stanton participated in the Día de Hemingway in Valencia, Spain, an event to which only three American universities were invited.

Juana Suárez’s book Sitios de contienda: Producción cultural contemporánea y el discurso de la violencia was published in 2010 and the English-language version of her award-winning book Cinembargo Colombia: ensayos críticas sobre cine y cultura is forthcoming with Palgrave Macmillan. Dr. Suárez was the Invited Guest Editor for two journals issues: Romance Quarterly. Special Issue on Cinema and Literature in Latin America 57.4 (Spring 2010) and Revista de Estudios Colombianos. Special Double Issue on Colombian Cinema 33-34 (Fall 2008–Spring 2009). She was an invited speaker at the Universidad Nacional de Colombia School of Gender Studies in October 2010, where she presented the paper “‘Mariposa atrapada por la llama’: sujeto y agencia femenina en el cine silente colombiano.” Also in October she was invited to share her study “Econo-mías de la memoria: imaginarios de la violencia en el documental colombiano (2000- 2010)” at the conference Epistemologías, herramientas y metodologías de la investigación del cine latinoamericano, sponsored by the Ministerio de Cultura, Dirección de Cinematografía and the Universidad Nacional, Bogotá. She gave an invited lecture on “Las trampas de la identidad: civilización, barbarie y nación en el cine colombiano” at the Festival de Cine Sin Fronteras at the Museo de Arte Moderna in Medellín in July 2010. Dr. Suárez was invited to speak on “Images or Reality. Latin American Cinema and Its Social Contexts” at the Universitas Gadjah Mada’s Department of International Relations (Yogyakarta, Indonesia) in June 2010. She was also an invited
Focus on Faculty


Haralambos (Haris) Symeonidis co-edited two books in 2009, *Atlas Lingüístico Guaraní-Románico (ALGR-L), Tomo II Léxico-Cuerpo Humano*. Co-editor and Co-director with Wolf Dietrich, Harald Thun, and Almidio Aquino, Kiel, Westensee-Verlag, and *Dynamik romanischer Varietäten außerhalb Europas – Alte und Neue Romania im Dialog*. Co-editor with Silke Jansen. He was invited to speak on his research on language contact and guaraní on several occasions. He presented “Atlas Lingüístico Guaraní-Románico” at the Department of Spanish and Portuguese of the Ohio State University in their Winter Quarter Hispanic Linguistics Colloquium, in January 2009. In March 2009 he spoke on “Contact-Induced Change in Paraguayan Spanish” at the Linguistics Department of the University of Hawai’i at Mano’a and then in April presented “Spanish and Guarani Language Policy and Implementation in Paraguay: Current Status of an Ambitious Project” at Teachers College/Columbia University New York. The next month found him presenting “Contact-Induced Change and Bilingualism Paraguay” at the Ibero-Romance Linguistics Seminar at King’s College/University of Cambridge, United Kingdom. In 2009 Dr. Symeonides also received a Special Summer Faculty Research Fellowship in the amount of $7,000 from the University of Kentucky for the research on the ALGR (Atlas Lingüístico Guaraní-Románico) and a Travel Grant in the amount of $1,200 from UK for the LASA (Latin American Studies Association) Conference in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

In the summer of 2010, Dr. Symeonidis was invited to teach at Middlebury College and presented the role of Mefisto in the theatrical production *Kasperle o las fantasmagorías del Dr. Fausto*, written by Maribel Carrasco and directed by Luis Martín Solís.

Manuel Villalba’s article “Utopía y exilio en la obra de José de la Colina” will appear in the forthcoming Actas del IV Congreso Internacional “El Exilio Republicano de 1939: La Segunda Generación.” His work *Lorca en el 75 aniversario de su muerte* will appear in *Romance Quarterly* in July 2011.

Faculty Posts for the 2011-2012 Academic Year

Department Chair—Ana Rueda
Director of Graduate Studies—Susan Larson
Director of Undergraduate Studies—Alan Brown
Director of Elem. Language Instruction—Yanira Paz
Academic Coordinator—Irene Chico-Wyatt
On Sabbatical—Aníbal Biglieri

Drs. Susan Larson and Ana Rueda at UK’s 2011 Commencement ceremony

Faculty in the Community

Heather Campbell-Speltz, and Emeriti faculty Joseph and Margaret Jones volunteered with Language Services during the World Equestrian Games, which brought human and equestrian athletes from over 60 countries to compete at the Kentucky Horse Park from September 25-October 10, 2010.

Alan Brown observed 16 Chinese classes in Fayette County as part of the StarTalk grant and provided feedback to the instructors. Along with Dr. Stacy DuBravac, he taught a 3-hr. workshop on formative assessment in the FL classroom for the Chinese teachers and current student teachers in the MATWL program.
Outstanding students who choose to major or double major in Spanish or International Studies / FLIE with a specialization in Spanish now have another opportunity to enrich their experience with Hispanic Studies. The department offers accomplished and motivated Spanish majors the opportunity to develop an Honors Thesis. The project will allow students to pursue their particular area of interest, with the guidance and support of a Hispanic Studies faculty member throughout the process.

To be eligible for the Honors Independent Research course, students must have at least 15 credit hours in Spanish at the 300-level or above, with a 3.5 GPA in their Spanish coursework and a 3.3 overall GPA. The projects can be research-based theses, technology-based pieces or translations. While the director of the project must be from within the department, the co-director may be from elsewhere in the University community.

Zach Shultz was the first Spanish major to take advantage of the Honors Option at UK. Professor Larson directed his thesis, “The Soho of Madrid? Consumerism, Sexual Identity and the Representation of Space in Chueca.” After completing his degree here, Zach was accepted with a full scholarship to Tulane University’s Graduate Program in Latin American Studies. For more information about Zach’s project and experience, see the Feature Story on UK’s website [http://alumni-friends.as.uky.edu/feature-story-3](http://alumni-friends.as.uky.edu/feature-story-3).

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**Study Abroad at UK**

Dr. Alan Brown accompanied a group of 24 undergraduate students to Ecuador last May as part of a service learning experience through the Kentucky Institute for International Studies (KIIS), whose website describes the format as one “that matches student interest/skills to community needs while exposing them to different cultures.” Students could take classes in Spanish language, Geography, Anthropology, History and Political Science while working with the local Afro-Hispanic Communities. The trip gave students the opportunity to pursue individualized goals within the service learning context and of course included exploration of the local environment and some time for recreation as well! Students interested in a study abroad experience at the undergraduate or graduate level should contact the UK Education Abroad Office to learn about programs and scholarship opportunities at 859-257–4067 ext. 252 or at [http://abroad.ad.uky.edu/](http://abroad.ad.uky.edu/)
**Spanish in our own backyard**

UK Spanish Club members are making a difference in their community as they work to get to know some of the local speakers of Spanish. Participating in the Great American Cleanup event on April 30, 2011, they were among 135 UK employees and students who volunteered to help clean up Wolf Run, in Lexington’s largely Hispanic Cardinal Valley neighborhood. “They wanted to do something for the community, to get involved,” said the club’s faculty advisor, Jorge Medina. “They wanted to use their Spanish here, too.” 200 bags of trash, as well as discarded appliances and even a shopping cart, were removed from the polluted stream.

**Nomenclatura: aproximaciones a los estudios hispánicos**

is described on its website as “an annual online academic journal dedicated to interdisciplinary scholarship on the literary and cultural traditions of the Hispanic world.” The journal is a graduate-student production of the Department of Hispanic Studies at the University of Kentucky and publishes original research in both English and Spanish on diverse aspects of the Hispanic world, ranging from the medieval period to the present. The inaugural issue: “Acts of Remembering,” is now available online through the journal's web site at http://uknowledge.uky.edu/naeh. This first issue covers many topics important to memory, and its authors represent top-tier national and international universities.

A reception was held prior to the annual departmental awards ceremony on April 20th to celebrate the launch of the journal and its website. During the subsequent ceremony, graduate students Rebbecca Pittenger, Alice Driver, Jeffrey Zamostny, Mahan Ellison, Matthew Feinberg, Anderson Stewart, Bruce Brown, Betsy Dahms, Angela González, Adam Glover and Natalia del Pozo were recognized for their efforts in the production of this first issues.

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**Working through Theory**

is a debate forum for intellectual exchange on cultural and literary theory. It intends to examine and criticize society and culture, drawing from knowledge across the social sciences and humanities.

The forum, organized and conducted by new faculty member Dr. Manuel Villalba, has led to interesting discussions of the literary and social theories of Roland Barthes, Julia Kristeva, Giles Deleuze and Félix Guattari, Jacques Derrida, Michel Foucault, Jacques Lacan, Richard Rorty, James Clifford and Clifford Geertz. Faculty and graduate students have taken part and Dr. Villalba plans to continue with the forum next year with a forum on Marxism. Graduate students voted for the topic they preferred and the final decision on the topic was announced at the end of the Spring semester.

**Graduate Program**

Hispanic Studies is proud to announce the reactivation of the University’s local chapter of the International Foreign Language Honor Society Phi Sigma Iota. The society “recognizes outstanding accomplishment in the study or teaching of any of the academic fields related to foreign language, literature, or culture.” Both undergraduate and graduate students who show outstanding achievement in the field of foreign language study are eligible for membership and scholarships.
GRADUATE STUDENT PAPERS AND PRESENTATIONS— 2009 –2011


Betsy Dahms. “‘Es mucho hombre esta mujer’: A Queer Reading of Teresa in Sab” Mid-American Conference on Hispanic Literature (MACHL):

Krissie Butler. “‘Es mucho hombre esta mujer’: A Queer Reading of Teresa in Sab” (forthcoming as a book chapter)


------. “‘Es mucho hombre esta mujer’: A Queer Reading of Teresa in Sab” (forthcoming as a book chapter)


------. “‘Es mucho hombre esta mujer’: A Queer Reading of Teresa in Sab” (forthcoming as a book chapter)


___________. “Ethical Attention and Intersexuality in Lucía Puenzo’s XXY.” Mountain Interstate Foreign Language Conference. Radford University. Radford, Virginia. 7-9 October 2010.


___________. “Puesta en abismo: La (in)comunicación en Los disparates de Francisco Goya.” Mountain Interstate Foreign Language Conference. Furman University. Greenville, South Carolina. 8-10 October 2009.

AWARDS AND HONORS

Wm. Jarrod Brown received a University of Kentucky Latin American Studies Summer Travel Grant in 2010.

Ruth Brown won the Feministas Unidas Graduate Student Essay Prize for 2009 for her article: "El activismo local de Maquilapoltic armonizando la mirada femenina con una política de lugar," will be published in a forthcoming issue of Letras femeninas.

Betsy Dahms won the MIFLC Sampere-Leonor A. Ulloa Scholarship and the Bonnie J. Cox Graduate Research Award from UK’s Gender and Women’s Studies Departmetn. She was also selected to teach the Introduction to Masculinities class offered by GWS. She was featured this year in the Student Spotlight for the Department of Gender and Women’s Studies. She also won a Dissertation Enhancement Award from Arts and Science for the 2011-2012 academic year.

Alice Driver received the 2010 Sigma Delta Pi Research Grant and the 2010 Bluegrass Indo-American Civic Society Shashi Sathaye Memorial Scholarship.

Mahan Ellison was awarded a grant through the Program for Cultural Cooperation for his project “Literary Africa: Spanish Reflections of Morocco, Western Sahara and Equatorial Guinea in the Contemporary Novel, 1990-2010.” He also won a Dissertation Enhancement Award from Arts and Science for the 2011-2012 academic year and a Sigma Delta Pi Research Grant.

Matthew Feinberg won a Fulbright Award to expand on the research he did for his doctoral work on urban space and performance in the Lavapiés district of Madrid.

Whitaker Jordan has been awarded the Graduate School Academic Year Fellowship for 2011-2012 and the Daniel Reedy Quality Achievement Fellowship.

Lee Kirven has won the Kentucky Opportunity Fellowship for the 2011-2012 academic year.

Allison Martin-Santos was awarded the Bonnie J. Cox Graduate Research Award from UK’s Department of Gender and Women’s Studies for her proposal "Avant-Garde Lesbians?!?! What?!? Where?!?: The Search for Queer Female Subjects in Early 20th Century Spanish Letters."

April JeNé New received the Daniel Reedy Quality Achievement Fellowship for the 2011-2012 academic year.

Jeff Zamostny was also awarded a grant through the Program for Cultural Cooperation for his project “To Sodom by Slow Train: Modernity and Male (Homo)Sexualities in Spain, 1900-1936.”
Graduate Student Job Placement—Fall 2010

The following students from our graduate program have found new positions in the field. We are very proud of their work and accomplishments and wish them all the best in their endeavors. Congratulations to all the candidates, to their advisors and mentors.

**PhD 2010**

*Carmen Arranz.* Centre College, Danville KY. Visiting Instructor of Spanish

*Osvaldo Di Paolo.* Austin Peay University, Clarksville TN. Assistant Professor

*Sandra Martin.* Evansville University, Evansville, IN. Visiting Instructor/SPANISH

*Kristie Bulleit Neimeier.* Union University, Jackson, TN. Assistant Professor of Language

*Claudia Ospina.* Wake Forest University, Winston Salem, NC. Lecturer in Spanish

*Teresa Phillips.* Gardner-Webb University, Boiling Springs, NC. Assistant Professor of Spanish

**PhD 2009**

*Nadina Olmedo.* Campbellsville University, Campbellsville KY. Assistant Professor of Spanish

*Stephanie Saunders.* Capital University, Columbus, OH. Assistant Professor of Spanish

*Ryan Spangler.* Creighton University, Omaha, NE. Assistant Professor

**Dissertations Defended—2010-2011**

Congratulations and our thanks to the following students who successfully defended their dissertations in the past two years and to their directors as well. Their talent, dedication and hard work has helped to make UK’s Hispanic Studies program one of the most successful in the nation!

**PhD 2011**

*Matthew Feinberg (With Special Distinction)* “Lavapiés, Madrid as Twenty-First Century Urban Spectacle” Co-Directors: Dr. Susan Larson and Dr. Ana Rueda

*Diane Burke Moneypenny* “Gastronomy and Otherness in Alfonso X’s Works: Food Identities in Cartography, Urbanity, Class and Religion” Director: Dr. Aníbal Biglieri

**PhD 2010**

*Carmen Arranz* “Modernity and Women Writers at the Turn of the Century” Director: Dr. Ana Rueda

*Osvaldo Di Paolo (With Special Distinction)* “Cadáveres en el armario: el policial palimpséstico en la literatura argentina contemporánea” Director: Dr. Ana Rueda

*Sandra Martin* “Navigating the Crosscurrents of Gendered Migration in Spanish Narrative and Film” Director: Dr. Ana Rueda

*Kristie Bulleit Niemeier* “Dueling, Honor and Sensibility in Eighteenth-Century Spanish Sentimental Comedies” Director: Dr. Ana Rueda

*Claudia Ospina* “Representación de la violencia en la novela del narcotráfico y el cine colombiano contemporáneo” Director: Dr. Susan Carvalho

*Teresa Phillips* "Erotic (R)evolutions: Corporeality and Subjectivity in the Poetry of Eunice Odio and Ana Istarú" Director: Dr. Susan Carvalho
The Hispanic Studies Department continues to work toward the proposed Spanish Writing Center, which it hopes to see open sometime in 2012, pending decisions regarding funding. The new Center is intended to enhance the preparation and writing skills of both undergraduate and graduate students of Spanish. Dr. Yanira Paz and Dr. Manuel Villalba have spearheaded the project, which looks to provide help with written assignments to students of all levels of proficiency in Spanish. Dr. Paz has long emphasized the importance of dedicating time to the practice and enhancement of undergraduate students’ writing skills, particularly in the face of recent policies regarding Writing Across the Curriculum. As she points out, “writing in a second language shouldn’t be any different.”

The Center’s structure will mirror UK’s very successful English-language Writing Center established by Dr. Janet Eldred of UK’s English department and now directed by Dr. Roxanne Mountford and which currently serves the entire campus community, from undergraduates to graduate students to members of the UK faculty. Dr. Paz commented that Dr. Eldred’s insight and expertise was valuable resource for her and Dr. Villalba as they developed the Spanish Language Center. In preparation for that opening, Dr. Villalba organized the Written Spanish Workshop Series for the faculty and graduate assistants in Hispanic Studies. Start-up funds for the project included a $3000 grant from the Dean of Arts and Sciences as part of the Dean’s Initiative for Improvement of Undergraduate Education. Unfortunately, recent budget issues have put on hold the much-anticipated facility.

The workshops, which took place in November of 2010, discussed various aspects of writing within the foreign language curriculum and brought several distinguished scholars to the UK campus to talk about elements of writing in Spanish, including Judith Liskin-Gasparro of the University of Iowa, UK’s own Janet Eldred, and Cecelia Colombi of the University of California, Davis. The topics ranged from evaluation practices to academic writing to the goals and workings of a writing center. Attendees of all three lectures received a certificate of participation and were rewarded with invaluable insights into the grading and preparation of written work and the ways in which the proposed Spanish Writing Center will improve the education of undergraduates and graduates alike.

Graduate Teaching Assistants will receive training to serve as writing consultants for the appointments in the center. Initially, the center will be available to third- and fourth-year Spanish students, with plans to expand access as interest increases and funding becomes available.

Written Spanish Workshop Series

November, 3rd - Useful Evaluation Practices for Foreign Language Writing

By Professor Judith Liskin-Gasparro (University of Iowa)

In English Place: W.T. Young Library Auditorium Time: 4:00-6:00 p.m.

November, 12th - The University of Kentucky’s Writing Center

By Professor Janet C. Eldred (Dir. of the Writing Center of U.K.)

In English Place: LCLLI 205 (study room 1 at Fine Arts Library) Time: 3:30-5:30 p.m.

November, 19th - La escritura académica en español en la academia americana

By Professor Cecilia M. Colombi (University of California, Davis)

In Spanish Place: LCLLI 205 (at Fine Arts Library) Time: 3:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Certificates offered to registered participants. Registration in 1153 Patterson Office Tower

For more information: manuel.villalba@uky.edu

Organized by the Dept. of Hispanic Studies with the support of the College of Arts & Sciences
We wish to thank our friends and colleagues who have helped to support the initiatives of the Department of Hispanic Studies at UK over the years. Their gifts have been used to help us maintain our high standards of language and cultural education, as well as support graduate and undergraduate students of Spanish to further their academic experience. If you would like to make a donation to the department, please fill out the form on the following page and mail your check made out to the UK Department of Hispanic Studies. Many thanks to our generous donors for their contributions over the past year:

**Donors**

**Jeffery C. Barnett** has made a generous donation to the Hispanic Studies Enrichment Fund.

**William R. Davis** has made a generous donation to the Keller Fund.

**Mark Groundland** has made another generous donation to the General Departmental Fund.

**Stephanie O. Heid** has made a generous donation to the General Departmental Fund.

**Suzanne Sledd McGurk** has made a generous donation to the General Departmental Fund.

**Mr. and Mrs. Robert L. Tri** have made a generous donation to the Hilda Dunn Memorial Fund.

**Thomas F. Whayne, Jr., Md. Ph.D.** has again contributed generously to the Chair’s Discretionary Fund.

The following people have made generous donations to the Keller Fund in memory of the late Dr. John Keller:

- **Mr. and Mrs. Richard C. Barbee III**
- **Annette Gash**
- **Erica L. Horn**
- **Larry T. Kittenger**
- **Margot Duysen McCullers**
- **Laura D. Keller**
- **Edward Stanton**
- **Anne E. Keating**
- **Lucille Keating**
- **Jeannie K. Bartha**
- **Patricia Bond Supplee**
- **Jack Supplee, Jr.**

¡Muchísimas gracias por su generosidad y apoyo!

**How You Can Help**

Your gifts are used for many worthwhile purposes:

- **Endowment for the Keller Award**, presented annually for the best graduate student paper read at a conference or published in a scholarly journal.

- **Keller Fund** establishes a professorship in Hispanic Literature and Culture, with the goal of $100,000.*

- **Professional Services Fund** provides travel assistance to Hispanic Studies graduate students presenting papers at conferences.

*Please see p. 25 for more on the Keller Fund and Laura Keller’s generosity.
Yes, I would like to make a donation to the Department of Hispanic Studies

in the amount of:

$1,000  $300  $150  $50  $25  OTHER

I want my gift to be used for: □ General Departmental Fund  □ Other (Please specify) ______________________

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CITY ________________________ STATE_______________ ZIP_____________

CLASS OF: ________________ (if alumnus) E-MAIL: ______________________

All contributions are tax deductible. Checks should be made out to Hispanic Studies and mailed to: Chair, Hispanic Studies, 1115 Patterson Office Tower, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY 40506-0027.
Dr. Aníbal Biglieri received a College Research Activity Award in the amount of $2500 and another $2500 from the Department of Hispanic Studies to aid in the publication of his book *Las ideas geográficas y la imagen del mundo en la literatura española medieval*, which will be published by Editorial Iberoamericana Vervuert (Madrid-Frankfurt).

Dr. Heather Campbell-Speltz was awarded a $1200 College Research Activity Award to attend the two-week course “Training the Trainers in Translation” in London, England in June 2011. She also received $1000 in funding from the Dean of Undergraduate Studies for the workshop training.

Dr. Susan Larson received a College Research Activity Award in the amount of $1500, as well as special funding from the Office of Research at UK, the Program for Cultural Cooperation, the Committee on Social Theory and the departments of Gender and Women’s Studies and Hispanic Studies for the ground-breaking mini-Symposium “Science, Technology and Spanish Culture: 1900-1936.” She also received a College Research Activity Award in the amount of $2000 to support research for her book, “Gender, Politics and the Spanish Avant-Garde.”

Dr. Haralambos (Haris) Symeonidis was awarded $1200 College Research Activity Award for to support his travel to Passau, Germany, where he presented a paper at the Hispanistentag Conference on March 23-26, 2011.

John (Jay) Allen, after recovering from double bypass surgery in the Spring of 2010, is back on his feet and back on the road. He spoke on “Libertad y responsabilidad en *Don Quijote* y *La vida es sueño* at the XXI Coloquios Cervantinos in Guanajuato, Mexico in November. He has also been named to the Consejo Consultivo that will plan future Coloquios.

Jeremy Cass (PhD 2004) was granted tenure at Furman University, where he is an Assistant Professor.

Mayte de Lama (PhD 2004) is serving as Interim Chair of the Department of Foreign Languages at Elon College, where she is an Associate Professor.


Jorge González del Pozo (PhD 2006) has published his article “La ‘Princesa’ de Joaquín Sabina: nostalgia a caballo entre el amor y el miedo” in Bulletin of Spanish Studies: Hispanic Studies and Researches on Spain, Portugal and Latin America Volume 87 Issue 3 pp. 353 - 370.

John Lihani continues as a volunteer tutor of English as a Second Language at the Community Education Center of Pasadena City College. A hard copy version of "Transitional English for Speakers of Spanish" (which appears online at / www.uky.edu/Projects/Globlec/ and elsewhere), was printed by the Pasadena City College Bookstore for Latino tyros of ESL.

### Undergraduate Awards

#### Graduation with Honors - Spanish majors:

**2010:**
- Marie Atwood
- Laura Brestel
- Sarab A. Brestel
- Elaine K. Craven
- Hillary E. Dodd
- Cameron M. Frielcher
- Jordan A. Hall
- Kayla M. Hall
- Amanda B. Harris
- Ashley C. Hermann
- Jason B. Hope
- James D. Hunsucker
- Stephanie L. Kang
- Rebecca E. Linares
- Reese E. Locken
- Francis López

   - Meghan N. McCoun
   - Claudia M. Monge
   - Elizabeth Neiser
   - Hemaben A. Patel
   - Kathryn A. Preston
   - Kristen L. Rucko
   - Kristen A. Rutsstrom
   - Maeghan E. Rymer
   - Eric B. Seblich
   - Jacqueline M. Segura
   - Taylor R. Skees
   - Mark L. Smith
   - Jessalyn M. Ubellacker
   - Brittany N. Van Hook
   - Brett A. Wolff
   - Heather R. Young

**2011:**
- Adrian Leigh Berkley
- Shea Alyssa Cummings
- Rebecca Jane Davis
- Marjorie Lee Grefer
- Grace Catherine Grogan
- Sarah Michelle Hines
- Allison Lyn Marquardt
- Erin Elaine Melwing

   - Colleen Erin McCoy
   - Peter J. Oesterling
   - Jessica Lee Schuck
   - Michelle Denise Seeger
   - Jeremy Orlando Taylor
   - Jared Austin Techau
   - Jacqueline Christine Thomas

#### Graduation with Honors - International Studies, FLIE

**2010**
- Vanessa M. Bradley

#### Zembrod Award for Outstanding Spanish Major:

**2010**
- Benjamin Kinsella
- Abigail Wiedbuner

**2011**
- Chris Collins
- Laura Edelen

#### Sigma Delta Pi Initiates

**2010**
- Courtney Belden
- Adrian Leigh Berkley
- Alan Garner
- Steven Hampson
- Sarab Hance
- Rebecca Linares
- Emily Lippard
- Francis López
- Mareesa McDonald

**2011**
- Haley Bala
- Alexandra Burgess

#### Graduate Awards

**Sigma Delta Pi Initiates**

**2010**
- Elena Aldea
- Angela Gonzáles
- Whitaker Jordan

**2011**
- Lee Kirven
- Naïara Porras Rentero
- María Jesús López-Soriano
- Ana Pocielo Samperiz

**Graduate School Lyman T. Johnson Awards:**

**2009-2010**
- Angela Gonzáles
- Allison Santos-Martín
- Martha Granados

**2010-2011**
- Angela Gonzáles
- Allison Santos-Martín

**Dissertation Enhancement Award:**

**2010**
- Krisstie Butler
- Rebecca Pittenger

**2011**
- Maban Ellison
- Betsy Dalms

**McCrary Award for the outstanding second-year graduate student:**

**2010**
- Ivan Sánchez-Medina

**2011**
- Sarah Finley

**Keller Award for outstanding paper read at a professional conference:**

**2010**
- Maban Ellison

**2011**
- Alice Driver

**Teaching Award for Teaching Assistant:**

**2010**
- Grace Rhenals

**2011**
- Sarah Finley

**Teaching Award for Part-Time Instructor:**

**2010**
- Dr. Raúl Lagos

**2011**
- Benita Clark

**Special Service Award:**

**2011**
- Ruth Brown and Dr. Raúl Lagos

**Hispanic Studies Faculty Recognition**

Dr. Cristina Alcalde
La Orden de Don Quijote

Dr. Enrico Santí, UK’s William T. Bryant Professor of Hispanic Studies, was inducted into Sigma Delta Pi’s La Orden de Don Quijote on April 16, 2010. This is the highest honor conferred by Sigma Delta Pi, the National Collegiate Hispanic Honor Society, and it recognizes exceptional and meritorious service in the fields of Hispanic scholarship, the teaching of Spanish, and the promotion of good relations between English-speaking countries and those of the Spanish-speaking world. The award ceremony took place during last year’s Kentucky Foreign Language Conference.

2011 AWARDS CEREMONY
APRIL 20TH

Faculty, Awardees and Sigma Delta Pi Initiates attended the Awards Ceremony held in the Niles Gallery of the Lucille Little Fine Arts Library.

Dr. Cristina Alcalde of the University of Kentucky’s Department of Gender and Women’s Studies was honored at this year’s Awards Ceremony for her contributions to the work of Hispanic Studies graduate students. She currently serves on no less than seven different dissertation committees in our department. Of her involvement with our graduate students she says, “I’ve really enjoyed having Hispanic Studies students in my classes, and have had the opportunity to serve on the committees of Hispanic Studies students whose research areas are connected to my research on gender, violence, migration, and masculinities.” She goes on the explain: “I've found it especially rewarding to see how students critically incorporate discussions and readings from courses they have taken with me and other professors and then further develop these discussions in their doctoral research, and am excited to learn about new and innovative ways of approaching research topics […]through my participation in each student's committee.” The topics covered in that research include Fidel Castro and constructions of masculinity, Chicana feminisms, Latina women's body image, and science fiction.

Dr. Alcalde is a native of Lima, Peru, where her parents and extended family still reside, but she has strong Kentucky connections. She got her Bachelor’s degree University of Louisville before completing work for both an MA in Latin American Studies and a PhD in Anthropology at Indiana University. Her areas of specialization include Latin America, in particular Peru and the Andean region; US Latinos Studies; gender and migration; the intersections of state, institutional, and interpersonal violence; domestic violence; and Latino masculinities. She is currently working on a study of non-violence within Latino migrant communities in Kentucky.
Suzanne Andapappa joined the department as the new Administrative Assistant in June of 2010. She comes to us from the Office of International Affairs. Suzanne did her BA at UK in FLIE-French and her MA in Public Policy at the Patterson School of Diplomacy.

Brent Sebastian continues to keep the department running smoothly as our Business Administrator. He is also pursuing a Master’s Degree in Higher Education.

Dr. Alan Brown’s family grew last year with daughter Amanda Sidney, who was born on March 5, 2010.


Krissie Butler and her husband also welcomed a baby girl, Avery Elizabeth, on December 11, 2010.

Our heartfelt congratulations to all of them on their beautiful bundles!

THE TECH ATELIER, the department’s digital development studio, will now be administered under the auspices of Arts and Sciences Computing Services, allowing our faculty and students to access not only equipment but the valuable expertise of A&S technology staff. Dr. Mark R. Lauersdorf, Director of Language Technologies, continues to support the Atelier in its mission to enhance the digital infrastructure supporting teaching and research in languages, literatures, and cultures at UK.

The Hispanic Studies will offer SPA 151, Spanish for Health Professionals, for the first time in an online form this summer. It is the first of several courses that department in considering for online development in the next several years.

**Sigma Delta Pi**

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<td>Vice President</td>
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<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Grace Rhenals</td>
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**HIGSA**

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Three new Lecturers joined the faculty in Fall 2010. Each will serve a specific area of need in the Undergraduate program: Composition, Coordination of SPA 103 and 203, and Translation.

Clara Pascual-Argente came to the Hispanic Studies Department from Georgetown University, where she earned her doctorate in 2010. At UK, she serves as the Coordinator of SPA 103 and SPA 203. Before coming to the US, she received her licenciatura from the University of Salamanca, Spain. Her primary research interests lie in Medieval literature. This year at UK she has also been an integral part of the committee for the Kentucky Foreign Language Conference.

Manuel Villalba comes to UK from the University of California, Davis, where he received his Ph.D. in 2010. His research interests lie in Modern Peninsular Literature and Film and in the application of Critical Theory. In our Hispanic Studies department, he coordinates the area of Composition and has been instrumental in developing the Spanish Writing Center. He has also coordinated the Written Spanish Workshop Series in the fall and the Working Through Theory forum this spring (see p. 8). In addition, he has been developing a mentoring program for promising undergraduate students to help them move toward an academic career in Language and/or Literature.

Heather Campbell-Speltz returns to UK after having served as a temporary Lecturer in AY 2009-2010 and as Academic Coordinator in AY 2004-2005. She earned her PhD from the University of Kentucky in 2004 and serves as the coordinator for the Translation courses in the department. Her research interests focus on Modern Peninsular Theatre and Translation Studies.

In addition to the new hires for the 2010-2010 Academic Year, Hispanic Studies will add another tenure-track professor this fall.

Carmen Moreno-Nuño will join the department in the Fall of 2011 as an Associate Professor. Dr. Moreno comes to us from Wesleyan University in Middletown, Connecticut. She completed her doctoral work at the University of Minnesota and her undergraduate degree is from the University of Granada in Spain. Dr. Moreno-Nuño specializes in Twentieth-Century Peninsular Studies and Film & Visual Culture, focusing most recently on the impact of war on cultural memory. She joins her husband, Dr. Moisés Castillo, who came to UK in the Fall of 2010.
Conferences and Departmental Events

DEPARTMENT OF HISPANIC STUDIES

Wednesday,
October 13
4:30-5:30 pm
Niles Gallery

“Soldados de Salamina: mirada, espacio, identidad nacional y memoria histórica”

Javier Cercas’s 2000 best seller and David Trueba’s 2008 film Soldados de Salamina take place at the end of the Spanish Civil War (1936-1939). The story focuses on Rafael Ballestero, writer and ideologue of the Fatherland, who manages to escape his execution at the hands of Republican soldiers. The journalist investigating the event becomes obsessed with finding the editor who spared the life of Ballestero. Miranda.

Dr. Carmen Moreno-Nuño
Wesleyan University

Free and Open to the Public

Film Series Spring 2010

Cine Club
Andrés Caicedo

Monday, April 12 at 6:30 PM
Young Library Auditorium
Las castañuelas de Notre Dame/
The Castanets of Notre Dame

Juan Carlos Galán, born in the Amazon region of Colombia, is a poet and translator who has worked extensively in the Amazonian area. He is the author of Banja Jiralo (poetry, 1991), Poetas y Ratatas (1997), a book on the poetry of violence, Amazonia (poetry, 2010), and Sober Im coarse (poetry, 2010). He will talk about his field work collecting oral narratives and how his research and his creative activity in poetry and film have been influenced by Amazonian cosmologies. Galán teaches Latin American Poetry and cultures of the Amazon at Florida State University.

Our guest speaker is part of the JOURNALS SERIES, where distinguished alumni are invited to give formal lectures and discuss their research and the nature of the profession.
Conferences and Departmental Events

DE LOS ANDES A LAS ISLAS: APROXIMACIÓN A LA LITERATURA PERUANA CONTEMPORÁNEA

November 16, 2010
NILES GALLERY, 4:00 - 5:30 PM
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

By EZIO NEYRA

Peruvian novelist Neyra was born in Lima in 1980. He has published HABRÁ QUE HACER ALGO MIENTRAS TANTO (Something Has to Be Done in the Meantime) (2005; 2006) and TODAS MIS MUERTESES (All My Deaths) (2007). He has a third novel, TSUNAMI, in press. His work includes short stories, articles, and novel extracts published in journals and anthologies in Latin America and Europe. Neyra’s work enjoys wide international projection. He has been writer in residence in Mexico City and in Rhodes Island, Greece. He is Co-Director of Peruvian publishing house Matalamanga and founding member and board member of WAM, an organization dedicated to promoting reading among children in Peru.

Sponsored by —– THE COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES, HISPANIC STUDIES

↑ Dr. Moisés Castillo introduces invited speaker Dr. Luciano García Lorenzo before his talk in the Niles Gallery.
Conferences and Departmental Events

The Dissertation Defense of
Matthew I. Feinberg
Hispanic Studies

will take place on
Thursday May 5th, 3 to 5 pm
Room 306 Main Building

Dissertation Title:
Lavapiés, Madrid as
Twenty-First Century Urban Spectacle

Dissertation Committee:
Susan Larson, Co-Director, Hispanic Studies
Ana Roeda, Co-Director, Hispanic Studies
Anh-Binh Bgheri, Hispanic Studies
Pariticia Ehlokmamp, Geography
Andrew Doolen, English

The Division of Musicology and Ethnomusicology
FOCUS: Musicology Graduate Student Organization

HIGSA: Hispanic Studies Graduate Student Association

Present
INTERDISCIPLINARY COLLOQUIUM SERIES

Friday, February 5, 3:30 p.m.
Niles Gallery, Little Fine Arts Library

Confessions of a Melomaniac
Music from a Literary Approach

Guest Speaker
Dr. Enrico Mario Santì

64th Annual Kentucky Foreign Language Conference
Hispanic Studies Peninsular and Latin American Divisions
Keynote Lecture

Donato Ndongo-Bidyogo
Writer and Journalist, Equatorial Guinea

“El escritor ante su obra: un conflicto permanente”

Friday, April 15, 11:00 AM
Old Student Center, Worsham Theater

Written Spanish Workshop Series

November 19th
La escritura académica en español
en la academia Americana

By Professor Cecelia M. Colombi
(University of California, Davis)

In Spanish

Place: LCCLI 205
(Study Room 1 at Fine Arts Library)
Time: 3:00—5:00 p.m.

Donato Ndongo-Bidyogo is regarded as the leading contemporary writer of Equatorial Guinea, and a multifaceted intellectual: journalist, novelist, literary critic, essayist, researcher, anthologist, and publisher. Some of his better-known books include Historia y tragedia de Guinea Ecuatorial (1977), El comercio español con África (1980), in addition to numerous novels, historical, cultural and political articles written in Spain and for the foreign press. In 1984 he coordinated an anthology of Equatorial Guinean literature and in 2000 was a finalist for the Spanish Sésamo Prize for his novel Los tiempos de tu memoria negra (2000), recently translated into English as Shadows of Your Block Memory. Other novels by him, such as Los poderes de la tempestad (1997) and El metro (2007), have enjoyed wide popularity and a warm reception by critics.
The 64th Annual Kentucky Foreign Language Conference enjoyed continued success, with over 400 scholars participating in sessions on Peninsular and Latin American Literature and Hispanic Linguistics.

**Betsy Dahms**, a Ph.D. candidate in Hispanic Studies, continued to serve as Assistant Director for this year’s conference.

**Donato Ndongo**, writer and journalist from Equatorial Guinea, delivered the Hispanic Studies Keynote Address: “El escritor ante su obra: Un conflicto permanente.”

**Mary Louise Pratt** of New York University was invited to give the Conference-wide Keynote Lecture on “Globalization as Linguistic Force Field.”

**Donato Ndongo**, above, during his keynote speech on Friday of the conference and, at right, with Professors Michael Ugarte (University of Missouri) and Olga Arbaláez (Saint Louis University), who were joined by the author in a round table discussion on Saturday.
Professor Susan Larson planned and organized a stimulating and ground-breaking one-day symposium on the influence of technology and science in early 20th-century Spain. Invited Speakers included Thomas Glick of Boston University, Maite Zubiaurre of University of California, Los Angeles, Eva Woods of Vassar College, and Dale Pratt of Brigham Young University. It was a day of lively discussion and interesting insights that included scholars from around the nation. The event was streamed live and remote attendees were able to instant message questions to the presenters, a first for UK!

This year's Latin American Studies Graduate Student Symposium was entitled “Exploring the Past and the Present in Latin America.” Two graduate students from Hispanic Studies participated: Jarrod Brown and Krissie Butler.
UK’s doctoral candidates in Hispanic Studies have established a reputation for excellence with their participation in the annual Mountain Interstate Foreign Language Conference. In 2010, (pictured here left to right) Grace Rhenals, Dan Anderson, Sarah Finley, Jeff Zamostny, Jarrod Brown and Mahan Ellison gave papers either individually or as part of a panel on Latin American Women Filmmakers, which was organized by UK students.

↑ Dr. Carvahlo joined UK graduate Laura Hunt (PhD 2007) and her spouse, and UK doctoral candidate Alice Driver (right) at the Latin American Studies Association, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, June, 2009.

↑ Dr. Symeonidis takes some time to relax with students in Cambridge. He was invited to speak at the Ibero-Romance Linguistics Seminar at King’s College/University of Cambridge, United Kingdom, on “Contact-Induced Change and Bilingualism Paraguay”
IN MEMORIAM

Ralph Rivera, "Raphy", our friend and colleague at UK, was born in 1961 in Ponce, Puerto Rico and died of terminal brain cancer in Bayamón, P.R., the 13th of December, 2010.

by Blanca Brashear

Ralph came to the University of Kentucky with a Master's Degree in Library Science and completed a Master's Degree in Spanish Literature from the Dept. of Spanish and Italian. In Lexington, KY, Ralph taught Spanish in high school and in the Spanish Immersion Program at Maxwell Elementary. After returning to Puerto Rico, he was Librarian for Acquisitions and taught at the University of Puerto Rico's "Recinto de Utuado" and later at UPR's "Recinto de Mayagüez."

In addition to his passion for teaching, Raphy was an active member of his community. In Lexington, he sang at Alfalfa's Restaurant and in Puerto Rico he could be heard both on the radio with some of the best musicians on the island and with the San Juan Symphony. He organized, and participated in artistic programs at the universities of Utuado and Mayagüez, but he also worked personally for environmental causes, to keep Puerto Rico beautiful. One of his many efforts was to save the small island of Vieques from the environmental chaos caused by the U.S. Navy. For years, the Navy, had used Vieques, as a firing range. Raphy lent his voice to this fight and eventually saw Vieques returned to civilians, no longer to be a munitions wasteland.

Raphy’s passing is mourned by friends and colleagues at UK and in the university communities he served in Utuado and Mayagüez. On April 25th, a special "Homenaje" was held in his name in Utuado and the traditional Library Week held on Campus was dubbed "Ralph Rivera Week" this year.

Personally, it was my honor to have been Raphy Rivera's friend, from the time we became a part of the UK "family". Never had I known such a unique young man, always so dedicated to "making a difference".

"Raphy" Rivera will never be forgotten.

Kelly Jo Feinberg, an instructor in UK's Division of Writing, Rhetoric and Digital Media and wife of Hispanic Studies graduate student Matt Feinberg, lost her battle with breast cancer on May 14, 2010.

by Heather Campbell-Speltz

Kelly was a beloved member of the team at UK’s Writing Center, as well as an accomplished writer herself. Her personal essay “This Sucks” was published in the magazine Brain, Child and was recently awarded the prestigious Pushcart Prize—Best of the Small Presses. The humorous and heart-wrenching essay chronicles her experience with breast-feeding and the weaning of her 7-month old son after being diagnosed with breast cancer.

To celebrate her accomplishments as a writer and teacher, Kelly's friends and colleagues in the Department of Writing, Rhetoric and Digital Media have established the Kelly Feinberg Memorial Essay Contest, which calls for creative nonfiction personal essays and multimedia projects. The winner is awarded a $100 cash prize. The winning essay for 2011 was by Gary Green, entitled “Coal . . . Mine?” For more information on the contest, see http://uknow.uky.edu/content/uk-announces-memorial-essay-contest

Kelly's husband, Matt Feinberg, defended his dissertation in May of this year and has been awarded a Fulbright Fellowship to continue his research on the Lavapiés area of Madrid. Their son Ari, now three, will accompany him to Spain.
Emeritus Professor of Spanish John E. Keller, founding father of what is today the Department of Hispanic Studies, died on Friday October 1, 2010 at his home at the age of 93.

by Ana Rueda

Dr. Keller was a native Lexingtonian, with a B.A. and an M.A. from the University of Kentucky. He had a Ph.D. from the University of North Carolina where he taught for 18 years before returning to his Alma Mater as Chairman of Spanish and Italian and Associate Dean of the School of Letters and Languages. The realization of the administration’s desires for Spanish and Italian studies is principally Dr. Keller’s work. As Chair of the Department of Hispanic Studies, I am very familiar with the legendary story surrounding Dr. John E. Keller as the founding father of this Department. It was he who in 1967 formed the Department of Spanish and Italian, presently Department of Hispanic Studies. At that time Professor John Keller, Associate Professors William C. McCrary, Joseph R. Jones, and Daniel R. Reedy, Assistant Professors Margaret E.W. Jones, Harlan Sturm, and Sara Sturm, together with 24 Teaching Assistants transferred from the Department of Romance Languages of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. These individuals joined Associate Professor Gerardo Sáenz and Instructor María Scorsone. Only Professor Sáenz held the Ph.D. degree at the time. Prior to this transfer the departmental staff consisted mainly of individuals with MA degrees. While technically a doctorate was offered, in effect none had been granted since 1956. With the arrival of the North Carolina transfers a full graduate program was instituted—practically overnight.

In addition to attracting the new faculty and students to Kentucky, Dr. Keller’s eminence as a teacher and scholar did much to call national attention to the renewed activities at UK. His accomplishments are too numerous to list, but the most salient are: President of the South Atlantic Modern Language Association, 1967-68, member of the executive councils of MLA and AATSP, and Doctor Honoris Causa from the University of Granada, Spain. He specialized in Medieval Literature, in particular in works sponsored by Alfonso X such as the Cantigas de Santa María. His editorship is vast: he was a member of the editorial board of Hispanica, editor of the Kentucky series of monographs, co-editor of the Kentucky Romance Languages Quarterly (now Romance Quarterly), and editor of Studies in Romance Languages. He was one of the world’s leading scholars in his field. He authored important studies on medieval Spanish exempla and produced notable critical editions; a body of knowledge that earned him the great honor of receiving the Gran Cruz de la Orden de Isabel la Católica and the rank of Comendador de la Orden de Alfonso el Sabio. The Departmental Newsletter of 1970 states that he somehow managed to do his deaning, chairing, teaching, and gardening, while publishing, editing and consulting. Until just a few years ago Dr. Keller was editor of the University Press of Kentucky’s Studies in Romance Languages, a position he held since 1968. He also continued to organize a medieval session for the Kentucky Foreign Language Conference.

In 2007 he was inducted into the UK College of Arts and Sciences Distinguished Alumni Hall of Fame for his lifetime achievements and for his contributions to the University of Kentucky and the Department of Hispanic Studies.

The Department of Hispanic Studies has an endowment for the Keller Award, which is presented annually for the best graduate student paper read at a conference or published in a scholarly journal. This is a coveted award and Dr. Keller honored us for many years by presenting the Keller Award in person. In addition, Dr. Keller established the Keller Fund, whose purpose is to sponsor a professorship in Hispanic Studies. Upon his death, Dr. Keller’s daughter made a very generous donation to the fund and also gifted the department with two sets of her father’s regalia for the use of the Hispanic Studies faculty.

Dr. Keller was indeed a source of great pride for Hispanic Studies, the entire College, and the profession.
Recurring Events in the Department of Hispanic Studies

Academic and Cultural Activities

- **Nuestro Rumbo: Rutas de investigación en Hispanic Studies.** Informal forum where graduate students and faculty share their research and work in progress. *Nuestro Rumbo* is a recurring event in the department since February 2006.

- **Jornadas Series. Lección magistral or Master Class.** Distinguished alumni are invited to give a formal lecture and meet with faculty and students to discuss their research and the nature of the profession.

- **Kentucky Foreign Language Conference.** A major annual event in the field.

- **Mini-Seminars.** Periodic one-credit seminars offered by guest faculties.

- **Film Series.** Please check our website for updated information.

- **Hecho en casa.** Annual reading of creative writing by graduate students and faculty. Typically it has taken place at the end of March (after the KFLC) or in early April. In AY 2006-07 we moved it to the Fall. We also plan on reaching out to the community and inviting local Hispanic artists to participate in the event.

- **Nomenclatura.** A digital academic journal produced by HIGSA.

- **Papeles en construcción.** Informal meetings where graduate students receive feedback from peers and faculty on their work in progress.

Service to the Community

- **World Language Festival.** High Schools from the state of Kentucky compete for various academic & non-academic categories. Staff, students and faculty of Hispanic Studies help coordinate and judge this all-day event, which takes place in mid-May. Although the festival will not take place in May 2011, it will return in a new, modern format next year.

- **Professional Services.** The department launched this non-profit operation in 2005. It allows graduate students to design and deliver professional workshops for businesses, do technical or literary translations or record scripts for a fee. The department supervises the students’ work and the operation, reserving a small percentage of the revenues to sponsor graduate students attending regional or national conferences. The program trains our graduate students professionally while providing a service to the university and the Lexington community.