UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTH DAKOTA

LANGUAGES, LINGUISTICS & PHILOSOPHY

Newsletter: Spring 2011

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Chair, Department of Languages, Linguistics & Philosophy

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Greetings, students, colleagues, and friends of the Department of Languages, Linguistics, and Philosophy:

As you read this edition of our newsletter, you'll discover that our faculty and students have had another busy, productive year in 2010-2011. Our faculty hosted a philosophy conference, accompanied Spanish students to Los Cabos to meet with the Children's Foundation there, mentored students who presented papers at local and regional conferences, and presented and published their own work. Students conducted research and traveled to France, Germany, Mexico, and Morocco; if you keep reading, you'll find the students' views on studying here and abroad (as well as their other writings), and the German students, in particular, express themselves bilingually. Students were inducted into our local chapter of the national Spanish

honorary, Sigma Delta Pi; three Spanish majors and two German majors were inducted into Phi Beta Kappa. A German major also won the prestigious, nationally-competitive Truman scholarship. An impressive list indeed!

Two new faculty members joined the department in August 2010: Cristian Gomez-Olivares, an accomplished Latin American poet who also holds a Ph.D. in Spanish from the University of Iowa, and Amine Rahmouni El Idrissi, who came with extensive experience in teaching both French and Arabic. Amine holds an MA from Boston University, where he also completed extensive work toward his Ph.D. Both greatly enriched our curriculum this past year, and we wish Professor Gomez the best as he leaves us for Case Western.

This newsletter also marks the end of my eight years as department chair; later this month Professor Leroy Meyer, Philosophy, will assume this role. It's been a privilege to work with colleagues so dedicated to their students and their disciplines and with students so eager to learn! And I know Professor Meyer will do an exemplary job.

Enjoy our Newsletter and have a productive summer!

Professor Susan Wolfe, Chair

Departmental Accomplishments

In the spring semester of 2011, our Departmental Chair Professor Susan Wolfe was awarded the prestigious Monsignor James Michael Doyle Humanities Teaching Award in the College of Arts and Sciences.

At the IdeaFest of 2011, the following student presentations were mentored by faculty members of our Department:

Joey Appley, *What is Civil Disobedience?* Sponsor: Leroy Meyer.

Stephanie Gruba, *Law and Morality: the Hart-Fuller Debate.* Sponsor: Leroy Meyer.

Josh Lacey, *Germany's RAF: From Political Curiosity to Failure by Terrorism.* Sponsor: *István Gombocz.*

Collin Michels, Sadie Hansen, Emily Struck, *Los Cabos Childrens Foundation* . Sponsor*:* Kristine Djerf.

Mitchell O'Hara, *Inconsistency in the Legal Positivism Tradition.* Sponsor: Leroy Meyer.

Tina Pietsch, *Somatization and Cultural Idioms of Distress: Treating the Hispanic Population.* Sponsor: Angela Helmer.

Brendan (Bo) Fox Pons, *A Rawlsian Revitalization of Gewirths Normative Structure of Action.* Sponsor: Vaughn Huckfeldt.

LANGUAGES

Arabic

Ben Lee Hausman submitted the following report:

During winter break I was fortunate to take part in a USD sponsored study trip to Morocco. The experience was just under two weeks and included tours of Rabat, Fez, Marrakesh, and Casablanca. Our group got to see everything from the intricate tile mosaics of pre-colonial estates to the modern capital and King's palace. We also attended classes which gave brief overviews of Moroccan history and politics, Islam, and conversational Arabic. These classes were fun and informative. Participating in a class with experts who are native to the region is an opportunity that is normally unavailable to students in the Great Plains area and I'm glad I was able to take advantage of it.

While in Rabat we were each hosted by a local family, which was another opportunity to gain firsthand experience about the people of Morocco. The family that hosted me consisted of a mother and her three children. They welcomed me into their home and were very friendly and helpful. Not only was I a part of this family's day to day life, but I was immersed in the Arabic language. As a bonus to the educational opportunities I was also treated to Moroccan home cooking. Our group was also allowed plenty of free time to explore the cities of Morocco. During our free time we were able to walk around the city, with our group or alone.

Even though the trip was filled with classes and city tours, we had plenty of time to spend however we wanted. The trip was so well planned and executed that we had a wonderful educational and cultural experience while never feeling rushed. Our hosts, the Center for Cross Cultural Learning, also seemed to be personally interested in each of us and made us feel welcome and safe. I am glad I participated in this trip as it was an excellent experience for anyone interested in studying a foreign language, politics, or culture.

The French Section

Logan Borchardt submitted the following report:

I spent my last semester as an undergraduate student overseas studying French in Pau, France through a USD direct exchange program from January to April of this year. Reflecting back on the experience now as I prepare to graduate in about a week, I believe that the decision to study abroad was by far the best decision that I made in my four and half years at the University of South Dakota. I was able to travel extensively to multiple countries in the region, including Portugal and Spain, while continuously learning from my interactions with various peoples. And, of course, academically the biggest benefit from my semester abroad is the fact that my French improved drastically. I have been studying French kind of off and on for two plus years and I learned more in my three months in France than I did in total the years that I spent in college studying the language. I am utterly certain now that immersion is indeed by far the best method to learn a language. Not only is there the plus of being constantly surrounded by the language, but beyond that you learn from your interactions with people different colloquialisms that you otherwise would likely not discover from studying with teachers in the states. For example, from spending several days with French kids in places like Lyons and Toulouse, I learned different forms of slang that are common amongst French youth now. Anyway, all I can really say is that I am incredibly grateful to have spent my last undergraduate semester in the way that I did. It was an experience that will never quite be replicated.

The German Section

This academic year, we graduated Katarina Gombocz, Tony Helland, Josie Kerk, and Laura Slagter. Congratulations!

In the spring of 2011, two of our Majors were inducted into *Phi Beta Kappa*, a prestigious national honorary organization: Aaron Clem and Tom Emanuel.

In March, Tom Emanuel was selected as the recipient of the Truman Scholarship.

This year, Susann Brettschneider and Nadine Herfurth, two student teachers from the Friedrich Schiller University of Jena, successfully completed a practicum in our Section.

Susann and Nadine also hosted the weekly events of our German Club (see in Facebook under Deutschclub USD).

Our Section also has a weekly reading group with some of our best students and faculty members (from History and Political Science) as participants.

Bilingual Student Reports

Aaron Clem

Pläne für nächstes Jahr und danach: Seitdem ich an der USD angefangen habe, Deutsch zu studieren, habe ich ziemlich viel gelernt. Ich habe am Unterricht, am Stammtisch, an der Lesegruppe, und zuletzt am Deutschklub teilgenommen, wodurch ich meine Fähigkeiten verbessert habe. Doch das Beste kommt noch. Nächsten Oktober fliege ich nach Deutschland, um an der Friedrich-Schiller Universität Jena zu studieren. Ich habe Fotos von Freunden gesehen und mit Studenten geredet, die dort schon studiert hatten, und je mehr ich darüber nachdenke, desto mehr freue ich mich darauf, in dieser kleinen deutschen, von Hügeln und Wäldern umgebenen Stadt zu wohnen. Ich werde Lehrveranstaltungen in Deutsch und Biochemie belegen, damit ich die	Plans for next year, and beyond: Since I began to study German at USD, I have learned quite a lot. I have taken part in lectures, the "Stammtisch," the German reading group, and finally the German club, by means of which I have improved my abilities. But the best is yet to come. Next October I will fly to Germany in order to study at the Friedrich-Schiller University of Jena. I have seen pictures from friends and spoken with students who have already studied there, and the more I think about it, the more I am excited to live in this small German city surrounded by hills and forests. I will take courses in German and biochemistry in order to fulfill requirements for the German major and admission to medical school. I look

Voraussetzungen des Hauptfachs Deutsch und der Medizinstudiumszulassung erfülle. Ich freue mich auf die Herausforderung, Biochemie in einer Fremdsprache zu lernen. Ich werde auch meine Diplomarbeit im Honors-Studiengang über Unterschiede zwischen dem amerikanischen und deutschen System der pandemischen Influenzabekämpfung ausführen. Um das Medizinstudium bewerbe ich mich diesen Sommer und Herbst. Ich weiß noch nicht, was für ein Arzt ich werden will, aber jetzt kommt mir der Beruf des Hausarztes attraktiv vor. Jedenfalls bin ich wohl sicher, dass ich in der Zukunft Deutschland und die deutschsprachigen Länder wieder besuchen werde, wenn ich die Gelegenheit habe. Ich will mich herzlich bei Prof. Gombocz, Professor Helmer und Professor Kitzler dafür bedanken, dass sie mich alle inspiriert haben, Deutsch weiter zu lernen.	forward to the challenge of learning biochemistry in a foreign language. I will also be working on my honors thesis about differences between the American and German systems of pandemic influenza prevention. I will be applying for medical school during this summer and fall. I still don't know what kind of physician I want to be, but now family practice seems attractive to me. In any case I am very sure that I will visit Germany and the German-speaking lands again in the future, when I have the chance. I want to cordially thank Professor Gombocz, Professor Helmer, and Professor Kitzler, who have all inspired me to continue learning German.

Doug Dailey

Doug contributed to our *Newsletter* with a German rendering of USD's alma mater song. Enjoy his nearly flawless trochaic metrics!

Süddakota Süddakota, liebe Heimat, Dein' Kinder besingen dich! Über Schönheit dieses Staats Wundern alle Menschen sich. Fließend Flüsse, goldener Weizen, Hüg'l geschmückt mit grün' Kiefern! Alle Leute dies' Land lieben, Dein' Anmut wird sich nie ändern. Süddakota, Alma Mater, In dein' Hall'n gedeihen wir! Voller Weisheit, reich mit Kultur, Dies' und mehr gehören dir! Einfach Anfang, reich' Geschichte, Mit Pionieres frech' Herkunft. Deine Sendung ist noch wichtig: Führ uns in frohe Zukunft!	South Dakota South Dakota, beloved home, your children sing your praise! Humankind wonders at the beauty of this state. Flowing rivers, golden wheat, hills adorned with green pines. Everyone loves this land; your charm will never change. South Dakota, alma mater, we flourish in your halls. Full of wisdom, rich with culture, these and more belong to you. Simple beginning, rich history, with the pioneers' bold heritage. Your mission is still important: lead us to the bright future.

Tom Emanuel

Bericht aus Jena	Report from Jena
Seit zwei Wochen bin ich endlich in Deutschland, und ich könnte mich nicht mehr freuen! Meine Familie väterlichseits stammt aus dem Rheinland, und als ich ich Kind war, wünschte ich mehr als alles andere, nach Deutschland zu reisen. Und jetzt bin ich wirklich hier! Dieses Semester studiere hier als Austauschstudent an der Friedrich-Schiller-Universität Jena. Jena gefällt mir sehr gut. Mir sind die Berge und die Hügel am schönsten.Wenn man gern wandert (wie ich), dann ist Jena eine ziemlich schöne Stadt. Als ich in der Stadt angekommen bin, kaufte ich zuerst eine gute Wanderkarte, mit der ich über	I've been in Germany for two weeks and I couldn't be happier! My father's family originally came from the Rhineland, and when I was younger I always wanted more than anything to visit Germany. And now I'm really here! This semester I'm studying as an exchange student at Friedrich-Schiller-University in Jena. I quite like Jena. Best of all I like the mountains and the hills here. If you enjoy hiking like I do, you'll enjoy Jena. The first thing I did when I arrived here was to buy a good trail map with which to plan my excursions through the hills. Already I've visited the Fox Tower, one of the "Seven

die Hügel wandern kann. Ich bin schon zum Fuchsturm, einem von den “Sieben Wundern von Jena”, gewandert. Für einen Amerikaner ist es sehr eindrucksvoll, Gebäude zu sehen, die manchmal älter als Tausend Jahre sind! Und nicht nur des Alters wegen, sondern auch der Architektur. Wir wissen nichts von Architektur in den USA. Gar nichts. Und das hat natürlich mit unserer kurzen Geschichte zu tun – für uns ist alles immer neu. Aber hier gibt es auch Zeichen der Moderne. Zum Beispiel, über dem Stadtzentrum ragt der JenTower – aber die Leute hier nennen ihn lieber “die Keksrolle”. Dieser Wolkenkratzer wurde von den Kommunisten im Jahr 1972 gebaut, und er ist ziemlich fehl am Platz uzwischen den mitteralterlichen Kirchen. Obwohl der Jenturm nicht so schön ist, ist er überall sichtbar. Beim Laufen durch die Stadt kann ich einfach nach der Keksrolle suchen, und damit weiß ich, wo ich eigentlich bin! Und dann gibt’s die Kurse, und die anderen Studenten. Es gibt viele ausländischen Studenten hier an der Uni, besonders aus Asien. Zum Beispiel stammt mein Mitbewohner aus China. Ich stamme aus Amerika. Und wir sprechen miteinander auf Deutsch – aber natürlich! Aber schon gibt es zu viel zu erzählen – ein Bild sagt mehr als tausend Worte, wie es in der Redewendung heisst. Und gewiss knipse ich viele Bilder, so dass, wenn ich wieder zu Hause in Vermillion bin, mich an mein Jena-Abenteuer errinern kann.	Wonders of Jena”. For an American it’s extremely impressive to see buildings that are sometimes older than a thousand years old! And not just on account of the age, but on account of the architecture as well. We have no idea about architecture back home in the USA. None. That has to do with our short history so far, of course – everything is always new with us. There are signs of modernity here too, though. For instance, over the city center looms the JenTower – the locals refer to as the “Cookie Roll”. This skyscraper was built by the Commmunists in 1972, and it looks rather out of place amongst medieval churches. But though it isn’t very pretty, it *is* visible from all over Jena. If I’m walking through the city, all I have to do is look for the Cookie Roll, and then I know exactly where I am! And then of course there are our courses and the other students. There are many other foreign students here in Jena, especially from Asia. My roommate, for instance , is Chinese. I’m American. And so we speak to one another in German – but of course! But already there is too much to tell – a picture is worth a thousand words, as the saying goes. And I’m definitely taking lots of pictures, so that when I’m back at home in Vermillion, I’ll be able to remember my adventures here in Jena.

Josie Kerk

Medizinstudium und Deutsch Ich werde im Mai dieses Jahres Mein Studium mit den Hauptfächern Deutsch und Biologie und mit dem Nebenfach Mathematik	Medical School and German I will graduate in May of this year with degrees in German and Biology. I will attend medical school at USD in the fall.

abschließen. Ich werde im Herbst mit einem Medizinstudium an der USD anfangen.	
Mein Urgroßvater kam aus einer kleinen Stadt in Deutschland, und ich habe noch Verwandte, die dort leben. Ich hatte das Glück, während meines Grundstudiums Deutschland zu besuchen. Wir reisten nach Frankfurt am Main, Stuttgart, Radolfzell, Jena und Apolda. Ich freue mich auf die Möglichkeiten an der medizinischen Schule, auch im Ausland zu studieren.	My great-grandfather came from a small town in Germany, and I still have great cousins that live there. I have been fortunate to visit them during my undergraduate years. We traveled around Frankfurt, Stuttgart, Radolfzell, Jena and Apolda. I am also looking forward to the opportunities in medical school to study abroad.
Die Medizinische Fakultät der USD bietet die Möglichkeit, medizinische Studiengänge in Deutschland für ein paar Wochen, oder sogar Praktika über mehrere Jahre zu abslovieren. Ich wollte schon immer meine Freude an der deutschen Kultur und Sprache mit meinem Interesse an der Medizin zu kombinieren, und so freue mich auf die nächsten Jahre, wenn ich das wirklich tun kann.	The USD medical school offers opportunities to join medical programs in Germany for a few weeks or even internships for years at a time. I have always wanted to combine my enjoyment of German culture and language with my interest in medicine, so am looking forward to the years ahead when I can really do so.
Als ich an der USD angefangen hatte, wusste ich, dass ich die deutsche Sprache weiter lernen wollte. Aber ich hatte keine Ahnung, wie es mich in anderen Fachbereichen betreffen würde. Weil ich an so vielen deutsche Literaturkursen teilgenommen habe, habe ich auch über große Philosophen und Erzähler gelernt. Ganz zu schweigen vom neuen Wissen über die Weltgeschichte. Dieses Wissen ist eine große Hilfe auch außerhalb meines Deutschstudiums.	When I started at USD, I knew that I wanted to continue studying the German language. But I had no idea how it would impact me in other areas. Because I have taken so many German literature courses, I have learned from great philosophers and storytellers as well, to mention more about world history. This knowledge has been great help outside of my German courses as well.
Ich freue mich auf die Verbesserung meiner Deutschkenntnisse während meines Medizinstudiums und auf eine vetriefte Erschließung der deutschen Kultur durch Reisen und Unterhaltung.	I look forward to improving my German knowledge during graduate school and exploring German culture more deeply through travel and conversation.

Josh Lacey

"Auf gepackten Koffern."	Ready for Study Abroad
Ich heiße Josh Lacey und bin im sechsten Semester an der Uni. Ich bin auf einem Bauernhof im Süddakota aufgewachsen und als Kind hatte ich viel Spaß dort. Wir waren sehr fleiβig und es gab immer etwas zu tun. Ich habe viele Dinge von meinem Vater und meiner Mutter gelernt, die ich gerade in meinem Leben benutze. Anstatt Landwirt zu werden habe ich mich entscheiden, Deutsch als Hauptfach an der Uni zu studieren. Ich bin die einzige Person in meiner Familie, die Deutsch als Hauptfach hat. Meine vier Brüder haben andere Studiengänge gewählt. Mit meinem Studiengang bin ich noch nicht fertig und nächsten Herbst werde ich in Lüneberg, Deutschland studieren. Obwohl ich USD und meine guten Professoren schmerzlich vermissen werde, weiß ich, dass ich viele neue Erlebnisse in Deutschland haben und etwas davon zurück an die USD Campus mitbringen werde. Ich freue mich auf meine Reise und auf meinen Aufenthalt in einem anderen Land. Deutsch am USD Campus hat mich sehr gut vorbereitet und im Großen und Ganzen fühle ich mich bereit, abzufahren.	My Name is Josh Lacey and I am in my 3rd year at the University. I was raised on a farm in South Dakota and as a kid, I had a lot of fun there. We were very hard-working and there was always something to do. I learned a lot of things from my dad and mom which I find useful in my life. Instead of becoming a farmer, I decided to take up German as my major at the university. I am the only person in my family who is a German Major. My four brothers have pursued different courses of study. I am not yet finished with my course of study and I will study in Lüneberg, Germany next fall. Although I will miss USD and my good professors dearly, I know that I will have many new experiences in Germany and will bring back something from them to the USD campus. I am looking forward to my trip and my stay in a different country. German on the USD campus has prepared me very well, and on the whole, I feel ready to depart.

Matt Sutera

Matt wrote the following story first in German; then he translated it into English.

Schrecken im Mozart-Saal	Fright in the Mozart Hall
Es war eine dunkle, kalte Nacht in Vermillion und all die Kinder schliefen schon im Bett. Es gab einen Mann, der Kilik hieß und als Sicherheitsbeamter am Uni-Campus arbeitete. Kilik war normalerweise in der Tagesschicht, aber diesmal hatte er Nachtdienst. Um ein Uhr dreißig machte Kilik	It was a dark, cold night in Vermillion and all of the children were asleep in bed. There was a man named Kilik who worked as a security officer on the University campus. Kilik was normally working on the day shift but this time he was working the night shift. At about 1:30 a.m. Kilik was making his nightly rounds and

seinen Rundang und ging in den Mozart-Saal. Dieser war der Hörsaal, in dem vor vielen Jahren eine Studentin brutal ermordet worden war. Als Kilik durch die großen Türen ging, fühlte er sich etwas unbehaglich, wegen der Dunkelheit. Er begann, alle Zimmer und den Hörsaal zu durchsuchen. Im Erdgeschoss, im ersten Stock und im zweiten Stock fand aber Kilik nichts Bemerkenswertes. Jedoch wusste er, dass der Mozart-Saal im Kellergeschoss war, wo der Geist der Studentin hauste. Als Kilik begann, das Kellergeschoss zu durchsuchen, fiel er anscheinend die Treppe hinunter! Es war ihm, als ob er von einer unsichtbaren Kraft nach unten geschoben würde. Kilik landete auf der untersten Stufe und am Ende erschien ihm ein heller Lichtstrahl. Er lief sehr langsam ans Ende der Halle und sah, dass das Licht von einer großen Tür kam. Kilik klopfte zuerst an die Tür und dann stürzte er durch die Tür. Bereit, von seiner Dienstwaffe einen Schuss abzufeuern, sah Kilik, dass der Lichtstrahl von einem Computer-Bildschirm kam. Erleichtert schaltete er den Computer aus, drehte sich schnell um, als er plötzlich ein lautes Knurren hörte. Dieses unerwartete Geräusch erschreckte Kilik und er begann, in einer anderen Richtung zu rennen und rannte immer schneller. Plötzlich stieß er auf ein unbekanntes Wesen am Boden und begann, sofort zu schreien. Er merkte bald, dass das "Wesen" sein Polizeihund war, der ihm durch das Gebäude folgte. Wieder erleichtert nahm Kilik den Hund mit sich hinaus, aber nicht bevor er merkte, dass seine Polizeimütze fehlte. Kilik dachte, "sie ist sicher im Streifenwagen," und lief die Treppe zurück und kam wieder in den Mozart-Hörsaal. Der unsichtbare Geist, der die tote Studentin war, erblickte Kilik und mit seiner Polizeimütze in der Hand lachte sie und wich danach in die Dunkelheit zurück.	he went into Mozart Hall. This was the hall in which, many years prior, a female student was brutally murdered. As Kilik went through the large doors he felt somewhat uneasy because of the lack of light. He began to search through the hall and all of the rooms. On the ground floor, first floor and second floor Kilik found nothing remarkable. However, he knew that the basement of Mozart Hall was where the ghost of the female student haunted. When Kilik began to search through the basement he seemed to fall down the basement stairs. To him, it was as if an invisible force had shoved him. Kilik landed on the last step and at the end of the hall a flash of light appeared. He walked very slowly to the end of the hall and saw that the light came from behind a large door. Kilik first knocked on the door and then he stumbled through it. Ready to fire a shot from his pistol, Kilik saw that the light flash came from a computer screen. Relieved, he turned the computer off, but he turned quickly when he suddenly heard a loud growl. This unexpected noise frightened Kilik and he began to run faster and faster in another direction. Suddenly he came upon an unknown entity on the ground and he immediately began to scream. He then noticed that this "entity" was his police dog that had followed him through the building. Again relieved, Kilik took the dog out with him, but not before he realized that his police hat was absent. Kilik thought to himself "surely it is in the police car" and he climbed the stairs coming back into Mozart Hall. The unseen ghost, which was the dead student, saw Kilik and with his police hat in her hands, laughed and then retreated back into the darkness.

Faculty accomplishments:

Professor Angela Helmer of the Spanish Section generously agreed to teach third-year German.

Publications and papers by István Gombocz:

”Zur Pressegeschichte der Donauschwaben in den USA im 20. Jahrhundert.” *Spiegelungen* (Munich) 59 (2010/4), 381-95.

Review of Balogh, András F. und Vogel, Harald, Hrsg. „Erliegst du der Götter Abgeschiedenheit.“ Exil und Fremdheitserfahrung in der deutschen Literatur. *The German Quarterly* 82 (2010/1), 262-64.

“Inter-Ethnic Communication in Eginald Schlattner’s *Novel Rote Handschuhe*.” Paper presented at the conference “Europe and the Crossroads,” Vienna, July 2010.

“The *Dakota Freie Presse*.” Paper presented at the Annual meeting of the South Dakota World Languages Association, Brookings, October 2010.

“Transylvanian Fortified Churches.” Paper presented at the Annual meeting of the South Dakota World Languages Association, Brookings, October 2010.

In the spring of 2011, István Gombocz was nominated for the Belbas/Nelson Award in Teaching.

The Spanish Section

Phi Beta Kappa

Three Spanish majors were initiated into the *Phi Beta Kappa* Honors Society on March 22, 2011, Ryan Krysl, Amber Robbins (both also Sigma Delta Pi initiates), and Jessica Tennant.

Sigma Delta Pi

Nineteen Spanish majors and minors were initiated into *Sigma Delta Pi*, the Spanish Honors Society, on April 6, 2011. Faculty, students, and their loved ones attended the ceremony in the MUC. The new initiates are

Abby Drabek	Bethany Obenauer	Jen Gieselman	Ryan Krysl
Allen Alsdorf	Cassie Garner	Meaghan Loos	Sarah Mordhorst
Amber Groninger	Emily Struck	Megan Meyer	Tina Pietsch
Amber Robbins	Jaclyn Mathison	Monique Ellefson	Yolanda Herrera
Angela Helseth	Jamie Smith	Rose Stevenson	

Congratulations on your achievement!

Our chapter of *Sigma Delta Pi* meets approximately once a month to discuss issues concerning the society and to practice Spanish. The meetings usually take place in the home of the Faculty Adviser, Assistant Professor Angela Helmer, where students and faculty cook together and enjoy meals and conversation in Spanish in a relaxed atmosphere.
Congratulations on your achievements!

Sigma Delta Pi, the Spanish Honors Society, has organized a recycling project, called *re-U.-se*, in which our members collect notebooks, pens, pencils, flash cards, etc. that students did not use during the year. When the new semester starts, students who are in need of any of these supplies can come by the office and pick them up for free.

Below is Collin Michaels' presentation at this year's IdeaFest about a field experience in Los Cabos, Mexico.

CASA SAN JUAN DIEGO

LOS CABOS CHILDRENS FOUNDATION

USD SPANISH DEPARTMENT
SPRING BREAK 2011

LOS CABOS CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

USD students had a unique opportunity to partner with the Los Cabos Children's Foundation (LCCF) who is headquartered in Sioux Fall, SD and Los Cabos, Mexico. The mission of LCCF is, "to provide medical, educational and humanitarian assistance to the children, their families and supportive organizations of the Los Cabos area". In order to accomplish their mission LCCF sponsors the *Amy & Vince's Fred Duckett Challenge* in Los Cabos, Mexico. This is their main fundraiser which in the first year raised $1.5 million dollars, and allows them to accomplish their mission.

USD students were asked to work for the *Amy & Vince's Fred Duckett Challenge,* and in return they received an emersion experience with the local Mexican community via the affiliate organizations of Los Cabos Children's Foundation. Students were involved in hands-on activities with various organizations in order to understand the needs of the people who live in the Los Cabos area. This trip allowed students to experience firsthand how the money raised from the fundraiser is used to help those in need. This opportunity showed students how international organizations can make an impact on poverty and living conditions of those less fortunate.

Students had a firsthand account of the extreme lifestyles that exist in Mexico, both extreme wealth and extreme poverty. Students also were able to practice their Spanish speaking abilities while interacting with local Mexicans.

Faculty accomplishments:

In June 2010, Angela Helmer earned her Ph.D. in Spanish Historical Linguistics and Sociolinguistics at the University of California, Los Angeles. The title of her dissertation is *Diglossia (Latin-Spanish) in Colonial Peru*

Professor Helmer's publications:

With Claudia Parodi and Kenneth Luna. "Bifurcación de una norma: el leísmo en el Viejo y el Nuevo Mundo." *Accepted (2010), Bulletin of Hispanic Studies*.

"La semántica cultural del ají [axí]." In *Visiones del encuentro de dos mundos en América*. Dakin, Montes de Oca, and Parodi, eds. México: UNAM, 2009:61-78.

"Relación de Chimalhuacán o Pueblo de Sanct Andrés Apóstol, (1579)". With the Centro de Estudios Coloniales Iberoamericanos, UCLA (2008) http://www.humnet.ucla.edu/spanport/CECI/cronicadechimalceci.pdf

LINGUISTICS

Susan Wolfe published two book chapters in 2010:

"Galatea as Transformation, Commodity, and Simulacrum in Contemporary Anglophone Films," co-authored by Roberta Rude and published by Edwin Mellen Press in *Contemporary Myth and the Construction of Identity*, edited by Aminal Alyal and Paul Hardwick.

"Policing the Rift: The Monstrous and the Uncanny in Torchwood," co-authored by Courtney Huse Wika and published by McFarland Press in *Illuminating Torchwood: Essays on Narrative, Character, and Sexuality in the BBC Series*, edited by Andrew Ireland.

She also read a paper, "The Cyborg as Monstrous Other in the Whedonverse," at the annual meeting of the Midwest Modern Language Association held in Chicago in November 2010.

PHILOSOPHY

Philosophy Program Activities for 2010 – 2011

Philosophy majors graduating this year are Michael Langley, Tim Larsen, Matthew Opbroek, and Bo Pons.

Tim Larsen and Bo Pons are both graduating as University Scholars, having successfully defended their Honors theses.

Bo Pons has been accepted to graduate school in Philosophy at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln.

Michael Langley will study systematic philosophical theology at the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley, California.

The 2nd Annual USD Philosophy Conference was held on Saturday, April 16, 2011, sponsored by the USD Philosophy faculty and the Friends of Wisdom. Dr. Alan Schrift, F. Wendell Miller Professor of Philosophy, Grinnell College, gave the keynote address: "French Nietzscheanism and the Emergence of Poststructuralism". Three students gave presentations: Derek Gumm (Grinnell College) on "Donald Davidson's Anomalous Monism: Supervenience, Non-Strict Laws, and Rational Explanation"; Felicity Slater (Grinnell College) on "The Self and a Genealogy of Subjectivity"; and Bo Pons (USD) on "The Need for Normative Duality". There were presentations by local and visiting faculty: Dr. Josh Thurow (Mount Marty College) on "'How Valuable is Truth?' or 'Is Truth Just a Trinket?'"; Dr. Joseph Tinguely (Sioux Falls) on "Not a Hero, Exactly: Nihilism, Fundamentalism, and 'The Big Lebowski'"; and Dr. Leroy Meyer (USD) on "S-1 and the Cultural Dimension of War & Peace".

Philosophy major Mitch O'Hara and Philosophy Professor Leroy Meyer attended the 34th Annual Conference on Value Inquiry at Creighton University, Omaha, on April 15, 2011.

The Philosophy Program sponsored an undergraduate research symposium in philosophy of law at the USD IdEA Fest, on April 13, 2011. The symposium consisted of Mitchel O'Hara on "Inconsistency in the Legal Positivist Tradition"; Stephanie Gruba on, "Law and Morality: the Hart-Fuller Debate"; and Joey Appley on "What is Civil Disobedience?"

Undergraduate Philosophy major Mitch O'Hara presented "Social Responsibilities of Corporations" at the Creighton University Undergraduate Research Conference, April 9, 2011. Mitch was accompanied by Assistant Professor of Philosophy Vaughn Huckfeldt.

Several USD students accompanied Leroy Meyer to attend the Iowa Philosophical Association Meetings at Grinnell College, November 12 and 13, 2010.

On October 16, 2010, USD Philosophy faculty and several of their students participated in the South Dakota Philosophy Conference held at Augustana College in Sioux Falls.

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