

LOGOS

The MLCS Newsletter

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News from the Chair



Adrian Del Caro,
Chair of MLCS

The winter semester was behind us, even if winter was not, and May found us winding down the Unit Review process. Our external reviewers, who visited in February, were Drs. John Lipski, The Pennsylvania State University; Patrick O'Neil, Queen's University (Chair); Wendy Rodgers, University of Alberta; and Linda Waugh, University of Arizona. Their detailed report contains many observations, suggestions, and recommendations, as well as strong endorsements of some MLCS practices and in general, a very positive assessment of MLCS's potential in the Faculty and the University. We are grateful for this comprehensive review and report, and we look forward to working together in the unit, and with our administrative partners, to further improve our delivery of teaching, research and service.

Let me report briefly on a few things that have made news during the last semester. In February MLCS colleagues and representatives from Arts and the Provost's office were on hand for the ribbon cutting ceremony of the Spanish Resource Centre, a three-way collaboration between the Ministry of Education of Spain, Edmonton Public Schools, and the

University of Alberta. The Centre is located in the Languages Centre on Woodcroft Avenue, and houses materials donated by Spain for the enhancement of teaching Spanish in Alberta. Our own Ann De Leon is the U of A liaison to the new Centre, and she and her colleagues in Spanish have been participating in the Centre's events. In March it was announced that our *Logos* editor Russell Cobb was the 2009 winner of the MacTaggart Writing Award – congratulations Russ! In April Old Arts hosted the ribbon cutting ceremony for rededication of the Bohdan Medwidsky Ukrainian Folklore Archive, now permanently housed in Arts. On hand to celebrate were Peter and Doris Kule, Professor Emeritus Medwidsky, Provost Carl Amrhein, Dean Colleen Skidmore, and Natalie Kononenko, Acting Director of the Kule Centre for Ukrainian and Canadian Folklore.

It is with gratitude and sadness that I announce my departure from U of A at this time. I have accepted the position of Head of Foreign Languages and Literatures at Purdue University, and so my family and I will be returning to the States. This decision was indeed family-driven, and I want everyone to know that my faith in MLCS and U of A remains high – I will not forget the dedicated, generous and talented people with whom I have worked these two years. My best wishes to the students, colleagues and supporters of MLCS as you continue your rise to excellence! Cordially, Adrian.

MLCS Undergraduate Student Conference – A Debut Event

March 26th marked a department first: Undergraduates from four language areas came together under the leadership of the MLCS honours students for a one day conference on “Language and Culture.” The ten presenters represented our department's multidisciplinary strengths in cultural studies, film, linguistics, literature, and translation. They spoke knowledgeably on a range of topics: Quebec film, flânerie in the Latin American and German contexts, German translations of Shakespeare, postmodern theory and German drama, modern implications of Kyvian-Rus' cultural power, cultural memory practices in Canada, gender norms in German

language, and preserving Spanish in Edmonton communities. The event was an all-department affair: graduate students Julia Babicheva, Barbara Pausch, and Katelyn Petersen chaired the three sessions, our Chair Adrian Del Caro opened the event, and Professor Anne Malena provided the keynote address. The lunch session featured a reading by U of A's own writer-in-residence Hiromi Goto, organized and sponsored by the Canadian Literature Centre, with support also from the Dimic Institute. The event showcased the excellent quality of undergraduate research taking place across MLCS disciplines. The depart-



L-R: Stephanie Revell, Lisa Anderson, Ava Becker, Noor Iqbal, Monica Polanica, Brendan Cavanagh, Barbara Hilden-Pickup (absent: Milane Pridmore-Franz, Anne Haggerty, Susanna Lynn).

ment congratulates the honours student organizers and all of the undergraduate presenters.



Spanish Resource Centre



The first Spanish Resource Center in Edmonton, Alberta was officially inaugurated this past February 8th, 2010 at the Institute for Innovation in Second Language Education at the Languages Center at Woodcroft. The Spanish Resource Center was created to make available to teachers and students of the Spanish language, a broad collection of printed and audiovisual resources and to promote workshops and other cultural activities. A memorandum of understanding was established

between the Ministry of Education of Spain and director of the Spanish Resource center (Andres Sanchez), the University of Alberta (Dr. Ann De Leon-MLCS), and Edmonton Public schools (Janice Aubrey).

The program for the evening included speeches from Dr. Olive Yonge (Vice-Provost of Academic Programs at the University of Alberta), Don Fleming (Chair of the Board of Trustees for Edmonton Public Schools), Jacobo Juan Guitierrez Rodriguez-Moldes (Education Attaché of the Embassy of Spain of Canada) and was accompanied by delightful

performances by Andy Johnson (University of Alberta) and the students of Mill Creek and Sweetgrass (Edmonton Public Schools). In attendance were professors, graduate students, and instructors from the Spanish section of MLCS and our department Chair Adrian Del Caro, as well as Colleen Skidmore (Interim Dean of the Faculty of Arts).

For more information on the center, opening hours and cultural activities please visit the website:

http://www.educacion.es/exterior/centros/edmonton/es/quienes_somos/somos.shtml

MLCS in the Community:

Les Cinécopains AIDS Prevention Fundraiser



In collaboration with the Madeleine Sanam Foundation and Dr. Anna Gural-Migdal, the French Cine-club aka Les Cinécopains (administered by PhD student Justine Huet and Dr. Sathya Rao) has screened several French movies dealing with the sensitive issue of AIDS throughout the winter session. The monthly screenings were opened to the students as well as to the community at large. The screenings were integrated into Dr. Gural-Migdal's FREN 445/545 class (Contemporary Cinema in French) providing graduate students (including Sebastien Dinet, Nichole Mertick and Romain Chareyron) with the unique opportunity to present and discuss specific movies with the audience. The event was also meant to collect donations for the Madeleine Sanam Foundation headed by Chantal Londji-Dang who has been actively committed to HIV/AIDS prevention in the community for many years. The Cinécopains would like to seize this opportunity to thank all the generous donors. In recognition of its support for the Francophone community, Les Cinécopains was awarded a Certificate of Appreciation by the Madeleine Sanam Foundation.

MLCS Undergrads Broadcast Research on Radio

The students of Dr. Maité Snauwaert's FREN 313 (Passions and Obsessions) class researched, edited and collected stories about famous crimes committed in France after 1950, then had the opportunity to record them to air on the francophone program *Fourretout* on campus radio CJSR (88.5) hosted by Chantal Londji Dang. The series aired on March 23, 30 and April 6.

The famous criminal affairs included the unelucidated murder of the Drummond family in the Dominici case; the parricide and serial killer Robert Succo; and the story of Jean-Claude Romand, who killed his family to prevent their discovery that he was not the doctor he had pretended to be for 18 years. The material will be accessible at: <http://www.arts.ualberta.ca/~frecult/links.html>

Rededication of the Medwidsky Ukrainian Folklore Archive



Prof. Bohdan Medwidsky (right) with Dr. Colleen Skidmore (left) at the Rededication of the Medwidsky Ukrainian Folklore Archives on April 8, 2010.

The Bohdan Medwidsky Ukrainian Folklore Archive is the largest repository of Ukrainian folklore outside Ukraine. On April 8, its new quarters were formally dedicated in a ceremony attended by Prof. Medwidsky, the man who founded the Archive, Natalie Kononenko, Acting Director of the Kule Centre for Ukrainian and Canadian Folklore, and University officials Carl Amrhein, Provost, Colleen Skidmore, Acting Dean of Arts, and Adrian Del Caro, Chair of Modern Languages and Cultural Studies. The Archive sprang from humble beginnings: field materials col-

lected by Medwidsky's students. Donations from the local community and across Canada followed as people quickly recognized the importance of heritage preservation. The University of Alberta also recognized the Archive and, in 1995, gave it its first home on the fifth floor of the Arts Building. Medwidsky made a major donation to the Archive in 2003 and it was renamed in his honour. The Archive moved to temporary quarters in HUB Mall in 2005 and this year it has returned to the Arts Building where it occupies an expanded facility easily ac-

cessible to students, scholars, and the general public. The Archive has already been used by researchers from Ukraine and across Canada. Folklore is a discipline characterized by intimacy and immediacy. Folklore fieldwork demands direct interaction with performers and other members of the community. In this day of increasing isolation, when people interact online rather than face to face, folklore is all the more necessary. The Bohdan Medwidsky Ukrainian Folklore Archive makes folklore accessible to all.

Graduate Student Teaching Awards

Congratulations to three of our graduate student instructors, Julia Babicheva (Polish), Justine Huet (French), Laura Moneris Oliveras (Spanish) for receiving FGSR Graduate Teaching Awards on March 11th. The instructors were celebrated once again in May when they each received a Faculty of Arts Graduate Student Teaching Award.



(L-R) Adrian DelCaro (Chair), Laura Moneris Oliveras, Justine Huet, Julia Babicheva, and Elisabeth Le (Graduate Associate Chair).

Special Announcements

Births

- April 25, 2010 Mark Oleksa Cherwick to Mariya Lesiv and Brian Cherwick

Deaths

- February 21, 2010 Mrs. Joan Greene, the widow of Dr. Edward JH Greene and grandmother to one of our former graduate students, Carole Greene, was a long-time supporter of the EJH Greene Memorial Scholarships in Romance Languages.

Promotions

- Dr. Natalia Pylypiuk will receive promotion to Professor and Drs. Claudia Kost and Sathya Rao will receive promotion to Associate Professor effective July 1, 2010.

Special Accomplishments

- Dr. Marisa Bortolussi and her collaborator Dr. Peter Dixon were recently awarded a SSHRC standard research grant for their project "Memory for Literary Text: An Empirical Investigation".
- Drs. Natalia Pylypiuk, Oleh S. Ilyntzkyj and Serhiy Kozakov have completed a four-year SSHRC project titled "The Online Concordance to the Complete Works of Hryhorii Skovoroda." This publication is the first of its kind in Ukrainian literature and is devoted to the complete oeuvre of a major figure in the intellectual landscape of Eastern Europe, Skovoroda (1722-94).
- Dr. Russell Cobb won the MacTaggart Writing Award for his short story, "We Have Begun Our Descent." The story was printed in the Spring 2010 edition of the Faculty of Arts' WoA magazine.

Faculty Publications 2010

Cisneros, Odile, translator. *The Oxford Book of Latin American Poetry*. Edited by Cecilia Vicuña and Ernesto Livon Grosman. New York: Oxford University Press, 2009.

Cobb, Russell. "Promoting Literature in the 'Most Dangerous Area of the World'" in *Pressing the Fight: Print, Propaganda, and the Cold War*. Edited by Greg Barnhisel and Catherine Turner. Amherst: University of Massachusetts Press, 2010.

Turnbull, Miles and Dailey-O'Cain, Jennifer, eds. *First Language Use in Second and Foreign Language Learning: The Intersection of Theory, Practice, Curriculum and Policy*. Multilingual Matters, 2009.

Gural-Migdal, Anna. "Zola à travers le cinéma contemporain," in *Zola au Panthéon. L'épilogue de l'affaire Dreyfus*. Edited by Alain Pagès. Paris: Presses Sorbonne Nouvelle, 2010.

Kononenko, Natalie. "How God Paired Men and Women: Stories and Religious Revival in Post-Soviet Ukraine." *Canadian-American Slavic Studies*. 44, nos. 1-2 (2010): 105-133.

Kost, Claudia R. "Integrating Technology in the German Class: What Kind of Preparation Do Graduate Student Instructors Need and Receive?" *Forum Deutsch* 17, no. 2 (2009): 22-36.

Krys, Svitlana. "Allusions to Hoffmann in Gogol's Ukrainian Horror Stories from the Dikan'ka Collection." *Canadian Slavonic Papers* 51, nos. 2-3 (2009): 243-266.

Laforest, Daniel, editor. *Pierre Perrault, J'habite une ville*. Montreal: l'Hexagone, 2009.

L'Clerc, Lee. "Kcho's La regata: Political or Poetic Installation?" in *Latin American Identities After 1980*. Edited by Gordana Yovanovich and Amy Duras. Waterloo: Wilfrid Laurier University Press, 2010.

Le, Elisabeth. *Editorials and the Power of Media: Interweaving of Socio-Cultural Identities* of series *Discourse Approaches to Politics, Society and Culture*. Amsterdam and Philadelphia: John Benjamins, 2009.

Nedashkivska, Alla. *Ukrainian through its Living Culture*. Edmonton: University of Alberta Press, 2010.

Priestly, Tom, Meghan McKinnie & Kate Hunter, "The contribution of language use, language attitudes and language competence to minority language maintenance: A report from Austrian Carinthia." *Journal of Slavic Linguistics* 17, nos. 1-2 (2009): 275-315.

Ruetalo, Victoria. "Border-Crossings and Textual Gaps: A Globalized Mode of Production in Profundo carmesí and Terra estrangeira." *Studies in Hispanic Cinemas* 5.1 and 5.2 (2009): 57-71.

Smith-Prei, Carrie. "Satirizing the Private as Political: 1968 and Postmillennial Family Narratives." *Women in German Yearbook*. 25 (2009): 76-99.

Snauwaert, Maïté. "Barthe écrivain." *Spirale* 232 (May/June 2010).

Spokiene, Diana, and Raleigh Whiting, editors and translators. *Confessions of a Poisoner, Written by Herself*. New York: The Modern Language Association of America, 2009.

Sywenky, Irene. "Nomadic Homes, Postmodern Travel, and the Geopolitical Imaginary in the Post-Totalitarian Cultures of Poland and Ukraine" in *Postcommunism, Postmodernism, and the Global Imaginary*. Edited by Christian Moraru. *East European Monograph Series* New York: Columbia University Press, 2010. 271-95.

Verdicchio, Massimo. *The Poetics of Dante's Paradiso*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2010.

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Thank you.

MCLS Graduates of 2010

Congratulations to the students who completed their programs in the 2009/10 academic year!

PhD: Bronwyn Burlingham, Eileen Rose.

MA: Marla Epp, Keely Kidner, Veronica Miller, Svetlana Remnyakova, Jacqueline Romero, Ana Lilia Shandro.

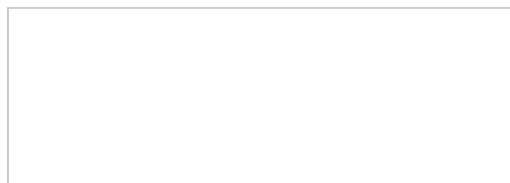
Honours: Lisa Anderson (French), Ardelle Bakker (Russian), Ava Becker (Spanish), Rhiannon Stafford Edwards (Spanish), Wendy Malanchen (French), Monica Polanica (Romance Languages), Stephanie Revell (German), Janelle Serediak (German/Scandinavian).

Majors: French Language & Literature: Benjamin Daigle, Janet Gynas, Elie Harb, Lauren Hill, Jacqueline Izzard, Vanessa Johnson, Lasha MacQuarrie, Olga Rupil, Krystina Silva, David Sommerfeldt. **German Language & Literature:** Janet Gynas, Andrea Mackowetzky, Byron Matus. **Italian Studies:** Christine Boucher-Le, Noël. **Latin American Studies:** Caitlin Guse. **Russian Language & Literature:** Andrew Jensen. **Scandinavian Language & Literature:** Sarah Pasay. **Spanish Language & Literature:** Kathleen Andreiuk, Michelle Hanley, Elie Harb, Karen Henderson, Vanessa Johnson, Emily Kalil, Achol Jok Mach, Kateryna Pekh, Melanie Power, Olga Rupil, Natasha Tames.

Minors: French Language & Literature: Kathleen Byers, Meghan Denega, Liam Fitzpatrick, Yueran Jiang, Emily Kalil, Jeffrey Klassen, Melanie Power, Sandra Smith. **German Language & Literature:** Sarah Michaud, Asako Ota, Neysa Rustemeier, Leah Sallis, Ashley Seibert. **Latin American Studies:** Rocio Elena Salegio-Morales. **Russian Language & Literature:** Alexander Baloukov. **Scandinavian Language and Literature:** Michelle Winmill. **Spanish Language & Literature:** Lisa Anderson, Susanne Chmait, Mary Coates, Karla Cornejo, Michael Cursio, Christopher Felton, Bridget Gryschuk, Lauren Hill, Vincent Jankunis, Kimberly Misutka, Rebecca Ritz, Nicole Tarbox, Delia Turcanu, Shannon Willis. **Ukrainian Language & Literature:** Andrew Jensen, Bohdan Szewczuk.

MLCS Translation Certificate: Alison Abbink, Benjamin Daigle, Liam Fitzpatrick, Janet Gynas, Elie Harb, Lauren Hill, Jacqueline Izzard, Vanessa Johnson, Rebecca Ritz, Krystina Silva, David Sommerfeldt, Lisa Anderson, Maite Tleugabulova, Jeffrey Klassen, Stephanie Revell.

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