

# WORLD LANGUAGES AND CULTURES @ IUPUI

IU School of Liberal Arts - Fall 2014

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## Greetings from the Department of World Languages and Cultures!



Welcome to the 2014 issue of the WLAC e-newsletter. This has been another exciting year packed with departmental growth and innovation.

Nelson Mandela once said, "If you talk to a man in a language he understands, that goes to his head. If you talk to him in his own language, that goes to his heart." Our department is dedicated to helping students reach the heart of people around the world by developing global competencies through language study and knowledge of cultural frames of reference. This commitment is exemplified by many of the activities reported in this newsletter: study abroad, curricular improvements, cultural events, civic engagement, and faculty and student collaboration.

We transitioned to our new curriculum for first-and second-year language courses including some pedagogical advances in online language instruction. Our faculty expanded study abroad options to Aix-en-Provence, France and the Dominican Republic. You will also read in this newsletter about one student's unique adventure.

We welcomed new faculty in American Sign Language/English Interpreting, German, and Japanese and said farewell to a faculty retiree, Professor Reiko Yonogi. We also celebrated the success and accomplishments of our faculty and students like Mariana López-Owens, who was selected most outstanding female student at IUPUI.

In this newsletter you will find updates about various WLAC happenings and you can learn more about current program offerings on our [website](#). We love to hear from you, so please send us an update. We look forward to seeing you and your

family at any of our events.

Best wishes to you and yours!

Cordially,  
Marta Antón  
Professor of Spanish and Chair

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## News from Study Abroad

Our faculty continue to be committed to providing our students with meaningful experiences abroad through language and culture study as the most direct path to developing global and intercultural competencies.

Contributions from alumni, donors and friends fund scholarships that support student study abroad programs. On behalf of our students and faculty, I thank our donors once again for making our students' dreams possible.

If you are interested in giving to our study abroad scholarships: Beaudry Summer Scholarship, Marius J, Fauré Family Scholarship, Nancy Newton Study Abroad Scholarship, and the IUPUI Max-Kade Scholarship, please visit our [webpage](#). Thank you!

### Aix-en-Provence, France



by Didier Bertrand (Associate Professor, French)

During summer 2014, [Professor Bertrand](#) (WLAC/French) took 13 IUPUI and IUB students to the charming city of Aix-en-Provence, France to the SUFLE ([Service Universitaire de Français Langue Étrangère](#)), IUPUI's first trip to the event. The program consisted of communicative classes on language and culture in the mornings, Monday through Friday. In the afternoons and on weekends, students were free to roam around Aix, take trips to their favorite destinations, or take part in SUFLE-organized field trips. Students lived in newly renovated dorms in an international atmosphere. They had the opportunity of visiting famous cities such as Cannes, Nice, Marseille, and Avignon, inland. Some highlights included a visit to the Calanques near Marseille, the Chateau d'If made famous by Alexandre Dumas in *The Count of Monte Cristo* (1844), but the most popular outings were to the French Riviera beaches!

*Pictured: IUPUI students on the Avignon excursion, pictured here in front of the "Popes' Palace"*

### Dominican Republic



by José Vargas Vila (Lecturer, Spanish)

This past June, Jose Vargas Vila took a group of IUPUI Spanish students to the Dominican Republic for a nine-day real life immersion experience. Before and after the trip, the students attended regular classes focused on the diverse culture of Hispanic countries. While in the Dominican Republic students increased their confidence in Spanish through daily one-hour lectures, guided tours and direct spoken practice with locals. | [\[Read more\]](#)

*Pictured: IUPUI students rest along the "Malecón Wall" in the Dominican Republic, June 2014*

### A summer in Jordan



by Quinn Dilley (Senior, Political Science/International Studies)

Quinn Dilley, who completed the Advanced Arabic courses in Spring, spent two months in Jordan over the summer learning its language, history and culture of different parts of the country. Quinn shares his experiences which included living with Muslim and Christian host families as well as working with Syrian refugees. | [\[Read more\]](#)

*Pictured: Quinn Dilley takes a camel ride in Jordan*

## Heilbronn, Germany

by Claudia Grossmann (Senior lecturer, German)

For the fifth consecutive year, **Claudia Grossmann** took a group of students on a two-week immersion program to Heilbronn in southwest Germany. Although the group was smaller in size this summer, enthusiasm was as high as always. From enjoying regional delicacies such as Maultaschen and Spätzle to testing out the various means of public transportation, participating students were challenged to put their German language skills to work every day. As before, the program was facilitated by faculty from the local university and some civic leaders. The students met for language and culture lessons on the campus of Heilbronn University in the mornings. Afternoons were reserved for field trips in the region. Highlights included a visit to Heidelberg, the Mercedes Benz Museum in Stuttgart, a relaxing boat tour on the Neckar River to the meticulously preserved medieval town of Bad Wimpfen, and a visit to the Aufbaugilde Heilbronn, a non-profit organization whose services include German language instruction for immigrants and refugees. Besides gaining an immersion experience in regional culture, students also learned about the effects of globalization in modern-day Germany.

## Salamanca, Spain



by Ana Vicente (Lecturer, Spanish)

This summer eleven students from IUPUI, four from IU Bloomington, and one from IU South Bend went to Salamanca to study Spanish at the prestigious University of Salamanca, Spain. During the six-week program, students lived with Spanish families and attended grammar, conversation and culture class from Monday through Friday. After class, many of them participated in several extracurricular workshops, like Spanish cuisine, guitar and flamenco dancing.

They also had time to enjoy the beautiful city of Salamanca and its vibrant cultural life. On the week-ends they traveled with tours organized by the University, and visited cities of historical interest such as Segovia, Madrid, El Escorial, Avila, Barcelona and Lisbon. This program gave students a very solid academic formation and a unique appreciation of the Spanish culture.

*Pictured: IUPUI, IU Bloomington and IU South Bend Spanish students pose for a photo in Spain.*

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## Programs News

### Arabic Program

by Amira Mashhour (Director, Program in Arabic)

The Arabic Club has set a conversation hour "Dardasha" on Wednesdays and Thursdays of the first and third weeks of each month. Students in the Arabic Program are meeting with Arab students on campus, spending time practicing Arabic as well as helping them learning English. Conversation meetings are having a good impact on the students' language skills. They are also building friendships.

The Arabic Club organized an important event to bring together American students, veterans, and Arab students in a discussion moderated by Professor Emeritus Ken Barger, an American veteran and IUPUI retired professor of anthropology.

### ASL/EI (American Sign Language/English Interpreting) Program

by Janet Acevedo (Director, ASL/EI Program)

It's been a busy year for the ASL/English Interpreting Program. The program revised its curriculum per the External Review Committee's recommendations to help students better understand course content and order in which to take classes. The **ASL Lab** opened and the ASL Club recognized Ben Rattell, a recent IUPUI graduate who has been a language mentor to many ASL students at IUPUI, with a grant to attend the Indiana Chapter of the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (ICRID) Conference held this past. | [\[Read more\]](#)

### Chinese Program

by Jing Wang (Director, Program in Chinese)



Three students from the Chinese program received scholarships from China. Khadijah Zakaeifar, who has an individualized major in Chinese Studies, obtained a highly competitive scholarship from the Chinese government to pursue her Master's degree of International Studies in China. In addition, Laura Huber and Nolan Shay received one-year Chinese language learning scholarships. These scholarships are highly competitive and students need to pass certain proficiency levels in order to get them. Congratulations to these students for their accomplishments!

In April, during the Chinese Fair, students from the IUPUI Chinese program received different prizes in the speech competition when competing with peers from other universities.

The **Confucius Institute** established the Chinese Corner this semester. Every Thursday from 12:00 to 1:00 pm, learners of the Chinese language can go to the Confucius Institute to practice speaking Chinese with native Chinese speakers. Learners of Chinese are welcome to take advantage of this valuable opportunity!

*Pictured: Chinese Program students and other visitors at the Chinese Fair*

## French Program

by Didier Bertrand (Director, Program in French)



This year, two students, Madison Harris (Sophomore, Neuroscience) and Cari Knips (Sophomore, English) received the Baudry Summer Study Abroad Scholarship, which facilitated their trip to Aix-en-Provence. Matt McCrady (Senior, French), Sara Rakich (Junior, Communication Studies and French) and Allyson Tibbs (Senior, International Studies) received the Fauré

Scholarship. This scholarship made it possible for Matt and Sara to study in Aix, and Allyson in Paris. Chelsea Plummer (BA French, 2014) was nominated by her professors as this year's top student in the Program in French and received the Medal of Academic Distinction. Congratulations to all!

*Left: Pictured l to r: Madison Taylor Harris and Cari Ann Knip with Professor Didier Bertrand (middle) Right: Pictured l to r: Professor Bertrand with Chelsea Plummer, the 2014 Academic Achievement in French Awardee*

## German Program

by Claudia Grossmann (Director, Program in German)



Interest in studying German at IUPUI is growing, and with growth comes many new accomplishments and opportunities. From internships to scholarships, IUPUI students showcased their skills in many ways this year. Three students in the Dual Degree Program for Engineering and German, Brian Knip, Eduardo Salcedo and Jesus Roman, completed a six-month semester internship with Bosch Engineering Group. Jasmine Eagan, (Senior, German), and Caitlin Whitaker, (Senior, Biology Major, German Minor) received the Max Kade German-American Scholarship. Congratulations!

Dr. Gabrielle Bersier, Professor of German, retires at the end of this year, while Dr. Sharon Wailes has been appointed Visiting Lecturer for Spring 2015. | [\[Read more\]](#)

*Pictured l to r: Brian Knip (Mechanical Engineering), Eduardo Salcedo, Jesus Roman and CJ Nielsen (Motorsports Engineering).*

## Japanese Program

by Keiko Kuriyama (Director, Program in Japanese)





The year brought new faces and activities to the Japanese program. The program welcomed new associate faculty members Allison Darmody and Izumi Harris. It also launched the Japanese/English Conversation Table, allowing Japanese language students to converse with native Japanese students. Tutorials for first year students also continued. This semester, Jeremy Gullogy, a dedicated Japanese language student, is tutoring first-year Japanese language students. | [\[Read more\]](#)

*Pictured: Jeremy Gullogy*

## Spanish Program

by Herbert Brant (Director, Program in Spanish)

The Program in Spanish at IUPUI continues to grow as a strong presence for language teaching and learning in the Indianapolis area, and for its leadership role in advancing cultural understanding in the region. This year the program worked to expand its online course offerings and also created a new class for students whose dominant language is English but have had exposure to the Spanish language at home or abroad. | [\[Read more\]](#)

## Master of Arts in Teaching Spanish (MATS)

By Enrica Ardemagni (Professor, Spanish)

The MATS (Masters of Arts in Teaching Spanish) continues to grow with new students, new graduates, and new options to help students complete their degree. New to the courses offered this year is the first hybrid course, Language Assessment for the Spanish Classroom, taught by Dr. [Marta Anton](#). | [\[Read more\]](#)

## Certificate in Translation Studies

by Enrica J. Ardemagni (Professor, Spanish)

There are currently eleven students enrolled in the Certificate in Translation Studies program. Translation courses are drawing a large number of students, many who have the opportunity to work internships in places where they can put their practical skills to use, serving as both translators and interpreters with different community partners such as the Mayor's Office, Indy 11, Latino Coalition against Domestic and Sexual Violence, the Neighborhood Christian Legal Clinic and Theodore Potter Elementary School. One of the students, Tabitha Garner, expanded her Certificate to an Individualized Major Program specializing in translation of English to and from Japanese, and spent the last year improving her Japanese proficiency by studying in Japan. Liz Essary, a former student in the program, is now a full-time student in the MA program in the prestigious conference interpreting program at Glendon College in Toronto, Canada.

## Faculty Activities

From publications to service, our faculty are out in the community showcasing the department in academic circles. Take a look at what faculty have published, presented at conferences, and done to help improve the lives of others throughout the year. | [\[Read more\]](#)

## Faculty Awards

World Languages and Cultures faculty were honored throughout the year for their achievements and excellence in the classroom. **Dr. Claudia Grossmann** was the recipient of the 2014 Susan Buck



Sutton Award for Study Abroad (IUPUI); **Dr. Obi Nnaemeka** received the 2014 Amistad Award for her distinguished service to human rights; and **Dr. Rosa Tezanos-Pinto** received the Joseph T. Taylor Award for Excellence in Diversity at the Joseph T. Taylor Symposium. She also received the Teacher of the Year award at the 2014 Indiana Foreign Language

Teachers' Association. Congratulations to our award winners! | [\[Read more\]](#)

Amy Lynelle, Associate Faculty in French, won the Outstanding Student Organization Advisor Award, February 2014.

*Pictured: Amy Lynelle, Associate faculty, French; Dr. Claudia Grossman and Eric Raider; Dr. Obi Nnaemeka; Dr. Rosa Tezanos Pinto with Chancellor Bantz upon receipt of the Joseph T. Taylor Award*

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## New Faculty

We are delighted to welcome three new faculty to our department this year:



**Dr. Keiko Kuriyama** joined the department as Lecturer and Director of the Program in Japanese Studies. Dr. Kuriyama has a Ph.D. in Linguistics from the University of Buffalo. She has held teaching and administrative positions at Indiana University, Bloomington, Randolph College and Princeton University. She was a recipient of the Teacher of the Year Award by the Indiana Foreign Language Teacher Association (2012) and by the Association of Indiana Teachers of Japanese (2011). She has published numerous articles on teaching Japanese and Japanese Linguistics and edits the Newsletter of the American Association of Teachers of Japanese.



**Dr. Karen Rösch** was appointed Assistant Professor of German, Hoyt-Reichmann Scholar of German and German-American Studies and Director of the Max Kade German-American Center. She has a Ph.D. in Germanic Studies from The University of Texas at Austin, and is a specialist in German-American studies, language contact and change, and language documentation. Her research focuses on the American dialects of German, particularly the Texas German dialects. Her 2012 book, *Language Maintenance and Language Death: The Decline of Texas Alsatian*, was published by John Benjamins. She has also been the director of the German Language Immersion Program at the Middlebury-Monterey Language Academy.



**Dr. Julie White Armstrong** joined the department as Assistant Professor of American Sign Language after holding visiting positions in the program. She obtained her Ph.D. and M.A. in Applied Linguistics with concentrations in American Sign Language-English Interpreting from Ball State University. She is a practicing interpreter and interpreting consultant for various agencies and institutions across the country. She has also had administrative experience as director of the ASL program at Goshen College. She has published and presented on her area of interest: Conceptual Blending in American Sign Language interpretations and the construction of action and dialogue in ASL interpreting.

## In Appreciation of Retired Faculty



**Reiko Yonogi** devoted the last twenty-four years to the establishment of the program in Japanese Studies at IUPUI. She has played several roles, as teacher and administrator in this program as well as cultural ambassador and intercultural mediator for campus relations with Japan. The entire curriculum of the Japanese Studies Program was developed by Reiko Yonogi and she has distinguished herself for her unusual commitment to working with students in independent work leading to an Individualized Major in Japanese. As the sole representative of the discipline of Japanese Studies, Professor Yonogi's leadership and expertise have been vital for the IUPUI campus. | [\[Read more\]](#)

*Pictured: Dr. Reiko Yonogi*

## In Memoriam

We were saddened by the death of Professor Ellen Brennan last July and her husband, Tom, shortly after. Ellen was a graduate of IUPUI. She received her Bachelor of Arts from IUPUI in 1975



and her Master's in Spanish language and literature from Indiana University Bloomington in 1979. That same year she joined the Department of Spanish at IUPUI, first as an associate instructor, then visiting lecturer, and in 1993 she taught as a lecturer until her retirement. Ellen taught all levels of Spanish language instruction and advanced courses on Spanish grammar and Spanish literature. She was a master teacher who embraced teaching the whole person. She was honored with the IUPUI Distinguished Associate Faculty Award and the Teaching Excellence Recognition Award. A firm believer of the benefits of study abroad, she served as resident director for the Indiana University summer program at the University of Salamanca on three occasions.

Ellen was an exceptional human being. In the three decades she taught at IUPUI, she touched the lives of hundreds of students and many of her colleagues. Her kindness, generosity, and genuine care for others made her one of the dearest people you could ever meet, truly "entrañable." She has certainly been a role model of collegiality, and she will be missed.

Her obituary can be read [here](#):

*Pictured: Professor Ellen Brennan*

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## Student Spotlight

Mariana Lopez-Owens, a School of Liberal Arts senior (Spanish), and Benjamin Judge (Classical Studies minor), a School of Science senior, were named the 2014 most outstanding female and male students at IUPUI. Students are selected for this honor in recognition of their scholastic achievement, extracurricular activities on campus, and civic and community service. They were selected from the **top 10** of the top 100. The student awardees are selected by a panel of alumni, faculty and staff.



**Emily Potts** (BA, Spanish, 2014) was one of two students selected to speak at 2014 IUPUI Commencement ceremony.

*Pictured: Left: l to r: Chancellor Bantz with most outstanding female and male students at IUPUI for 2014, Mariana Lopez-Owens (Senior, Spanish) and Benjamin Judge (Senior, Classical Studies minor). Right: Emily Potts (BA Spanish, 2014) while on a trip to Africa*

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## Alumni News

Ashley Arreola (BA 2006, French/German) is Program Manager at INTO, an international student exchange company in Austria that helps students spend a year at an American high school. In March of 2013, she was elected vice chair of Democrats Abroad Austria.

Ben Campbell (BA, 2012, Anthropology and Individualized Major Classical Studies) completed a Masters in Classical Studies at the University College Dublin with a thesis entitled *Ovid's 'Metamorphoses' Book XV: The Speech of Augustus*.

Cristina Lozano Argüelles (M.A.T, 2014; Associate Faculty in Spanish) received the Edra Staffieri Scholarship for Professional Development from the Indiana chapter of the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese.

Indhu Raghavan (BA, Political Science, and French) is Securities Market Specialist at the World Bank Group in Washington D.C.

John Young (BA, Individualized major in Classical Studies) finished his Masters in Classical Archaeology at Florida State University.

Jessica Bonnin, Wendy Garringer, Heather Henning, Andy Goodwin, Amy Grubbs, Natalie Kinsey, Cristina Lozano, Elisa Lucchi-Riester, Nancy Reyes; students and alumni presented at the annual conference of the Indiana Foreign Language Teachers' Association, November 6-8, 2014:

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## 2014 Event Recap

### Researching and Teaching Intercultural Competence and Intercultural Rhetoric and Discourse Conference



International scholars gathered last June at IUPUI to discuss the role of cultural knowledge and intercultural communication as well as the intersection of language and culture in community settings. The conference focused on studies of how writers and speakers with various linguistic, cultural and social backgrounds negotiate communication while also bringing together current discussions of intercultural competence in language education, rhetoric and discourse research, and application in English and other world language teaching settings. The conference was organized by the International Center for Intercultural Communication, the Department of World Languages and Cultures, and the Max Kade German-American Center in the IU School of Liberal Arts at IUPUI. It celebrated the memory of Professor Daniel C.

NÄ¼tzel, associate professor of German, the Hoyt-Reichmann Scholar of German-American Studies and Director of the Max Kade German-American Center at IUPUI. | [\[Read more\]](#)

*Pictured: Marta Antón and Ulla Connor (second and third from left) with Srikant Sarangi (Aalborg University, Netherlands), Dwight Atkinson (Purdue University), Viviana Cortés and Diane Belcher (Georgia State University), and James Lantolf (Penn State). Photograph by Angela Hermann*

### IUPUI students perform at IndyFringe Theater



**Professor Marda Rose** directed IUPUI students and actors from Grupo de Teatro Vida in a Spanish-language production of "Sopa de sobre" by Spanish playwright Charo González Casas in March. The play writer attended the performance and had the opportunity to interact with the students and the audience. It was a fabulous experience for everyone involved, and Charo GonzÄ¼lez Casas left with a great impression of Indianapolis and IUPUI.

*Pictured (l to r): Nelson Borges (S203 student, actor), Charo González Casas (Spanish playwright), Marda Rose (IUPUI faculty, director), Emily Riester (S203 student, actress), Cassie Karkiewicz (S131 student, assistant director)*

### 2014 International Lecture Series



For the second year in a row, the Department of World Languages and Cultures in cooperation with the IUPUI International Festival, Office of International Affairs, hosted a series of lectures to increase knowledge and awareness of international issues among our campus community. During the course of the day, there were well-attended lectures on a variety of cultural, historical and linguistic topics: *Globalization, Internationalization, and Translation* by Ben Van Wyke (WLAC/Spanish Translation), *Refuge in*

*Hollywood: German Emigrants in the United States (1933-1945)* by Thorsten Carstensen (WLAC/German), *Traditional Chinese Medicine* by Jing Wang (WLAC/Chinese), *The Rape Capital of the World? Congo and Africa's World War in Historical Perspectives* by Didier Ch. Gondola (History), *Just in time for the Oscars ... Coming of age in French-language cinema* by Kathryn Lauten (WLAC/ French), *Pilot E-portfolio group: E-portfolio in Study Abroad* by Stephanie Leslie (Office of International Affairs) and *Who are the Arabs?* by Amira Mashhour (WLAC/Arabic).

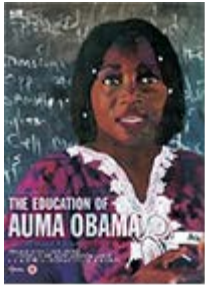
### 2014 Breaking Stereotypes Cultural Series

The Spanish Club collaborated with the Spanish Resource Center and the faculty in the Spanish program to create a cultural



series addressing stereotypes and other topics of interest in Spanish-speaking countries. Weekly presentations during the month of April discussed the presence of Jewish people in Argentina (Daniela Shuvaks Katz, Senior Lecturer, Spanish), stereotypes about Mexicans (Michel Trahyn Associate Faculty member, Spanish), and about Galicia, Spain (Manuel Collazo, Spanish Resource Center).

## The Education of Auma Obama: A Film by Branwen Okpako



The German program hosted a well-attended film screening and discussion with filmmaker Branwen Okpako last April at the Lilly Auditorium of the IUPUI Library. The film is described as providing an intimate portrait of Auma Obama, U.S. president Barack Obama's older half sister.

## Italian Film Festival returns to IUPUI



The Italian program in the Department of World Languages hosted the **Italian Film Festival**, April 12- May 10, 2014. During the festival, seven films and two documentaries were showcased. Indianapolis was one of 11 cities that participated in the festival. All films were presented with English subtitles and were free and open to the public.

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IU School of Liberal Arts at IUPUI

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