

# The Newsletter of the Department of Modern Foreign Languages and Literatures, The University of Tennessee

Fall 2011

## A Message from the Interim Head of the Department:



Dear Friends, Students, and Colleagues,

During the past summer, our Head for the past four years, Professor Erec Koch, was hired as the Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences at Hunter College (in New York City). We will miss Erec's dedication to the Department and wish him the best of luck in his new position. At the same time, the Department is happy to announce that we have hired a specialist in French and Maghreb studies, Professor Douja Mamelouk, who will play an important role in the development of our new program in Arabic. We are also happy to welcome back Professor Chris Holmlund, who returns to the Department after a year teaching at the University of Western Ontario. Professor Holmlund is a specialist in cinema studies who is currently serving a three-year term as head of the Society for Cinema and Media Studies, which has 2800 members worldwide.

The Department of Modern Languages is dedicated the discovery, preservation, and dissemination of knowledge of foreign languages, literatures, and to preparing students for success in a global world. The eight languages we teach in the Department, and the research that faculty members conduct on a wide panorama of cultures, enrich our courses at the undergraduate and graduate levels. Our undergraduate students continue a tradition of excellence inside and outside the classroom. Three students who recently graduated from MFL received prestigious Fulbright awards: Shande King, an honors graduate who completed a B.A. in Math and French in May 2010 (and his master's degree in education in May 2011); Ariel Brassil, a spring 2011 honors graduate who completed a B.A. in German with a concentration in Language and World Business; and Amy Hill, a fall 2010 graduate who completed a B.A. in German. The complete Fulbright story may be found at: <http://www.utk.edu/tntoday/2011/08/22/ut-students-alumni-win-fulbright-awards/>. Jacob Crowder, a senior in Russian with a concentration in Language

and World Business, was named the American Council of Teachers of Russian Post-Secondary Russian Scholar Laureate. Eight students in German were selected for German Exchange Programs in 2010-11.

MFLC makes a strong contribution to UT's Ready for the World initiative through its involvement in study abroad. The Department oversees popular programs in France, Italy, Mexico, and Spain, where students improve their language skills as they are immersed in foreign cultures. This is regularly accomplished on campus by the dedication of MFLC faculty to organizing a variety of activities (such as film series, lecture series, and language tables), which enrich the multi-cultural (and multi-disciplinary) experience we offer to our students. Most recently, both undergraduate and graduate students in German assisted Professor Stefanie Ohnesorg in bringing *Do Deutsch*, a celebration of all things German to the UT campus. The event, which was held from October 10-14, was a tremendous success, and further information may be found at: <http://www.utk.edu/tntoday/2011/10/06/do-deutsch-events-continue/>.

Our graduate programs in French, German, and Spanish continue to excel. During the past academic year nine students received their MA degrees, another, Kandace Holladay, received her Ph.D. in Modern Foreign Languages and Literatures (with a specialization in Hispanic literature), and twelve graduate students made presentations at professional conferences. Furthermore, the Spanish Ph.D. program achieved one of the highest NRC rankings of any PhD program at the University of Tennessee, and details on this important national ranking may be found at: <http://chronicle.com/article/nrc-spanish/124661/>. The Department is also very pleased to announce the creation of five-year BA/MA tracks in French and German. Interested students in the French BA/MA track should contact Professor John Romeiser ([jromeise@utk.edu](mailto:jromeise@utk.edu)) and, for the German BA/MA track, should contact Professor Jeff Mellor ([mellor@utk.edu](mailto:mellor@utk.edu)). Several faculty members in the Department received prestigious awards in the spring of 2011. Professor Michael Handelsman and Professor Mary McAlpin won Excellence in Teaching Awards. Professor Handelsman was recognized for his energy, passion, and commitment in the classroom, in addition to his innovative technique of using music as a component of teaching textual analysis, and Professor McAlpin was recognized for the perfect balance she maintains among questions, answers, lectures, videos, and handouts, which she skillfully employs in order to create interactive classes. Professor Flavia Brizio-Skov earned a Ready for the World award for creating an exchange program with the University of Genoa, which will help to enhance intercultural and international awareness among students. An Excellence in Advising award was presented to Professor Luis Cano, who was recognized for encouraging students to ask questions about their education and think about long- and short-term goals. Professor Stephen Blackwell and Professor Gregory Kaplan were awarded Lindsay Young Professorships in recognition of their distinguished classroom teaching and scholarship. Our Department would not be nearly as productive were it not for the work and dedication of our staff in McClung 701, which includes Pam Carter, Lisa Pass, Cheryl Acree, and Irina Bobrovitskaya.

Of course, the ability of a Department to provide students with the widest array of top quality programs depends in part on the support of its alumni. I encourage all who receive this newsletter to consider making a donation to the UTK Modern Foreign Language Gift Fund (or another MFL fund). Complete instructions for making a donation may be found at the end of this online newsletter. I would also like to encourage students who have graduated with MFL degrees to contact Dr. Stefanie Ohnesorg ([ohnesorg@utk.edu](mailto:ohnesorg@utk.edu)), the Associate Head of MFL, with updates and news for future newsletters.

As always, I would welcome your email: [gkaplan@utk.edu](mailto:gkaplan@utk.edu)

Thank you for your continued support,  
Gregory B. Kaplan  
Interim Head, Department of Modern Foreign Languages and Literatures  
[gkaplan@utk.edu](mailto:gkaplan@utk.edu)

# FACULTY

## NOTES

### **Stephen Blackwell's (Russian)**

scholarship is featured in a chapter of the new book *Nabokov, Perversely*, by Eric Naiman (Cornell UP, 2010). The chapter is called "Blackwell's Paradox and Fyodor's Gift: A Kinder, Gentler Nabokov."

### **Harriet Wood Bowden (Spanish)**

had a paper published in *Language Learning: "Optimizing explicit instruction: Matters of type and timing"* (co-authored with Stafford and Sanz). In July 2011, she gave a presentation entitled "Second language acquisition: what do we know and how can I apply it?" to teachers of deaf students at the Strategic Interactive Writing Instruction workshops, held at Tennessee School for the Deaf.

**Flavia Brizio-Skov (Italian)** read a paper on contemporary Italian cinema at the Venice conference of the Canadian Association of Italian Studies, and she was invited as a panelist at the Cremona international workshop on "New Italian Political Cinema" organized by the University of Salford, UK. Her book *Popular Italian Cinema* came out in 2011, and she is currently preparing a book manuscript on the Western genre. She received a Professional Development Award in support of her research and, in October 2010, she was named Quest Scholar of the Week (<http://quest.utk.edu/2010/flavia-brizio-skov-2/>). She has also been invited to serve as referee reader and as a member of the Editorial Board of the *Journal of Italian Cinema Studies*.

**Luis Cano (Spanish)** presented the paper "La ciencia

ficción en la obra de Rodrigo Rey Rosa (Science Fiction in the novels of Rodrigo Rey Rosa)" at the 92nd Annual Conference of the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese (AATSP), July 10-13, in Guadalajara, México.

**Nuria Cruz-Cámara (Spanish)** received a Professional Development Award for the summer of 2011 in order to conduct research at the Biblioteca Nacional de España in Madrid (Spain's National Library). Her research was part of her current project, a book manuscript on the New Woman in Spain during the first decades of the 20th century. She also served as a manuscript evaluator for Juan de la Cuesta-Hispanic Monographs and as a tenure reviewer for Trinity University.

**Sébastien Dubreil (French)** presented a paper, "Think Global, Teach Local:

Globalization, Transcultural CALL Research, and FL Pedagogical Praxis," at the Annual Convention of the American Association of Applied Linguistics (AAAL) in Chicago. In April 2011, he also delivered the keynote address at the Annual Conference of the Northeast Association of Language Learning and Technology (NEALLT) in Philadelphia, "Identities, Borders, Change: (Trans)cultural Learning in Mediated Learning Communities."

**Dawn Duke (Spanish & Portuguese)** became Chair of Africana Studies in Fall 2011. She continues to publish on Afro-Latin American Women's Writings, and she spent the summer 2011 in the Dominican Republic to do research for her book project on Gendering Race, Writing, and Activism. Her review is of Maria Cristina Fumagalli's book Caribbean Perspective

on Modernity – Returning Medusa's Gaze was published in *Caribbean Writer*, Volume 25, 2011. Forthcoming are: "The Triumph Within: Carolina Maria de Jesus and Strategies for Black Female Empowerment in Brazil" Critical Perspectives on Afro-Latin American Literature; "An Overview of Contemporary Afro-Brazilian Women's Narratives" Afro-Hispanic Review; and "Literatura afro-femenina en la República Dominicana" Revista Iberoamericana.

**Les Essif (French)** published the preface ("Preface: Doing and Experiencing Theatre in the Culture of the Decidedly Free") and the lead article ("Rehearsing the Uncertainty of Theatrical Art and/in Foreign Language and Culture") for the book *Dramatic Interactions*; completed his manuscript on "Images of the U.S. on the French Stage," received a

Professional Development Award to do summer research in France, and was invited to participate on a panel on the subject of innovations in contemporary theatre production at the Avignon Theatre Festival (France).

**Millie Gimmel (Spanish)** was invited in October 2010 to give a talk and direct a graduate seminar at the Ohio State University. In May 2011 she as a participant in the NACADA regional advising conference and in July she delivered a talk on literacy in colonial Mexico at the biennial conference of the Society for the History of Authorship, Reading and Publication in Washington, DC.

**Michael Handelsman (Spanish)** was named Faculty Director of the Office of National Scholarships and Fellowships at UT in July 2011

(<http://onsf.utk.edu/default.html>). He received a Chancellor's Excellence in Teaching Award and the TFLTA Jacqueline Elliott Award for outstanding service to the profession at the post-secondary level (<http://www.utk.edu/today/2010/12/03/handelsman-teaching-award/>). Handelsman was a panel member for "Panorámica actual de la cultura ecuatoriana" held in London, Paris, and Madrid in March 2011. His co-edited volume of essays, *De Atahualpa a Cuahtémoc: Los nacionalismos culturales de Benjamín Carrión and José Vasconcelos*, will be published jointly by the Museo de la Ciudad de Quito and the University of Pittsburgh.

**Gregory Kaplan (Spanish)** presented a paper, "Poetic Expressions of Otherness and Humanness: Rodrigo de Reinosa's Sympathetic Attitude Toward African

Slaves," in January at the annual Modern Language Association (MLA) conference. In September, he gave a UT Pregame Showcase presentation ("Christian Pilgrimages and Cave Churches in Medieval Spain") and presented a paper ("Using Medieval Church Architecture to Teach Texts Three Dimensionally") at the Medieval Academy's CARA conference held at UT. He also published an article ("El impacto del culto a San Millán en el nacimiento de la lengua española en Valderredible, Cantabria [España]") in *Revista de Estudios Hispánicos*.

**Katherine Kong (French)** was granted tenure and promotion to Associate Professor in 2011. Her article "Writing Love in the Thirteenth Nouvelle: Marguerite de Navarre's Epistolary Fictions" appeared in *Romance Quarterly*. She delivered a paper on "Repeating Oneself in Christine de Pizan"

at the International Congress on Medieval Studies at Kalamazoo, and she organized and chaired a session on "Renaissance Translations" at the Kentucky Foreign Language Conference. She was awarded a Chancellor's Grant for Faculty Research, and she was a core member of the Medieval Studies Research Workshop. In November 2010, she was a UT Quest Scholar of the Week (<http://quest.utk.edu/2010/katherine-kong/>).

**Daniel H. Magilow (German)** co-edited the volume *Nazisploitation!: The Nazi Image in Low Brow Cinema and Culture* (November 2011). This essay collection considers the persistence and perverse attractions of Nazi imagery in a variety of media, including film, video games, and comic books. In 2011 Dr. Magilow also published several book reviews and the article "Yizker Books and Photographic

Form," about the use of photography in Holocaust memorial books. He gave talks at both regional and national conferences and has taught courses on interwar German culture, Holocaust representation, literary theory, and German children's literature.

**Douja Mamelouk (Arabic, French and Francophone Studies)** gave a talk on "Tunisia's Stumbling Toward Democracy: From Dictatorship to Constituent Assembly" at the George Washington University conference hosted by the Solidarity Committee to Protect the Iranian People's Will (SCPIPW), on September 17, 2011. The overarching conference-theme was "Towards a Democratic Middle East." She also presented a paper entitled "From Dictatorship to Constituent Assembly: What Comes After the October Elections in Tunisia" at a lecture

series on the Arab uprisings at George Mason University in November 2011. In November, she was invited to a reception in Washington, DC, to celebrate the publication of the *Oxford Dictionary for African Biographies*, to which she contributed with an entry on Tunisia.

**Mary McAlpin (French)** was the recipient of a Chancellor's Excellence in Teaching Award in spring 2011. She organized a panel on classification in eighteenth-century thought for the January 2011 Modern Language Association Conference as part of her duties on the 18th-Century Divisional Panel. She also spoke at a roundtable in March 2011 organized by the U.T. chapter of the American Association of University Professors ("Jobs in Jeopardy?"). She continued to serve as undergraduate coordinator for French, as a member of the Faculty Senate,

and as a member of the du Châtelet Prize Committee for the American Society for 18th-Century Studies.

**Stefanie Ohnesorg (German)** organized UT International Literary Colloquy at the International House in Fall 2011. She and **Noah Soltau** jointly created a new English-language translation of Georg Büchner's *Woyzeck* for the Clarence Brown Theatre (Fall 2011). She presented on "Displaying the Natural World in 18th Century Travel Writing" at NeMLA (April 2011), and at the same event she, Rosemary Feal (Executive Director of the MLA), and Cristina Santos (Brock U) were panelists of a roundtable discussion on the MLA's "Programs in Peril" Study. In 2010 and 2011, she organized sessions at TFLTA on German Film and on Transcultural Studies and presented at both conferences. She was also the lead organizer of UT's "do

Deutsch" Campus Week (Oct. 2011) for which she received funding from the German Embassy, UT's Ready for the World Initiative (<http://www.dodeutsch.h.utk.edu/>).

**Natalia Pervukhin (Russian Studies)**

recent publications include a review of Russkaia sem'ia "Dans la tourmente déchaînée..." Pis'ma O.A. Tolstoy-Voeikovoi 1927-1930 gg. Publikatsiia V.P. Jober in the *Russian Review*, and an article on "Homeland Through a Looking Glass, Darkly: Recreation of Ukrainian Space in V.S.Pecherin's *Memoirs*," in *Dvesti let Gogolia* (200 of Nikolai Gogol) Jagiellonian University Press, Krakow.

**Maria Stehle (German)**

published an article, based on her book manuscript, "The Sound of the Ghetto: Representations of German Spaces in Rap and Hip-Hop," an article about the legacies of the West

German student movement, and an article on innovative pedagogical approaches. She is currently working on two new collaborative research projects, one on soccer and multiculturalism and one on Pop-Feminist performances in contemporary Germany. During Mini-Term 2011, Dr. Stehle took a group of thirteen UT students on a faculty-led study abroad trip to Berlin, Germany. Dr. Stehle also developed a new cross-listed MFLL/German lecture course on representations of witches (Fall 2011).

**Yulan Washburn's (emeritus, Spanish and Portuguese)**

audio book, *The Eloquence of God*, has appeared as a 6 CD set from Audio Book, Daystar Productions, LLC, Knoxville. (865) 602-7777.

## Faculty

## Awards

**Professor Stephen Blackwell (Russian)**

was awarded a **Lindsay Young Professorship** in recognition of his distinguished teaching and scholarship at the Chancellor's Honors Banquet in April 2011.

**Professor Luis Cano (Spanish)**

received an **Excellence in Advising Award**. At the Chancellor's Honors Banquet in April 2011, he was recognized for encouraging students to ask questions about their education and think about long- and short-term goals.

**Professor Flavia Brizio-Skov (Italian)**

received a **Ready for the World Award**. At the Chancellor's Honors Banquet in April 2011,



she was recognized for creating an exchange program with the University of Genoa, which will help to enhance intercultural and international awareness among students.

**Professor Michael Handelsman (Spanish)** received an **Excellence in Teaching Award**. At the Chancellor's Honors Banquet in April 2011, he was recognized for his energy, passion, and commitment in the classroom, in addition to his innovative technique of using music as a component of teaching textual analysis.

**Professor Michael Handelsman** was also awarded the **Tennessee Foreign Language Teaching Association's "Jacqueline Elliott Award for Teaching and Service in Higher Education"**

**for 2010**. This award recognizes the recipient's outstanding contributions to his/her institution, to colleagues, and to foreign language organizations. This award is named for Jacqueline Elliott, a professor of French in our department, who founded the TFLTA in the 1960's, and the formal presentation of this award occurred at the TFLTA annual meeting in November 2010.

**Professor Gregory Kaplan (Spanish)** was awarded a **Lindsay Young Professorship** in recognition of his distinguished teaching and scholarship at the Chancellor's Honors Banquet in April 2011.

**Professor Mary McAlpin (French)** received an **Excellence in Teaching Award**. At the Chancellor's Honors Banquet in April 2011, she was

recognized for the perfect balance she maintains among questions, answers, lectures, videos, and handouts, which she skillfully employs in order to create interactive classes.

## *ALUMNI*

## *NEWS*

**Ariel Brassil (German Honors, Language and World Business B.A., 2011)** received a prestigious Fulbright award for 2011-12. Congratulations! More info at: <http://www.utk.edu/tntoday/2011/08/22/ut-students-alumni-win-fulbright-awards/>

**Tammy Collins (German M.A., 2010)** was featured in a Chattanooga Times Press article on November 21, 2010 entitled "School system tweaking German language program." The article reports about her

work at the Brown Academy in Chattanooga where she provides bilingual instruction to 50 pre-kindergarten through first grade German students as part of Hamilton County's efforts to accommodate children of the new Volkswagen plant employees.

Link to the article:  
<http://timesfreepress.com/news/2010/nov/21/school-system-tweaking-german-language-program/>

**Amy Hill (German B.A., 2010)** received a prestigious Fulbright award for 2011-12. Congratulations! More info at: <http://www.utk.edu/tntoday/2011/08/22/ut-students-alumni-win-fulbright-awards/>

**Shande King (French and Math Honors B.A., 2010 and Education M.A., 2011)** received a prestigious Fulbright award for 2011-12. Congratulations! More info at: <http://www.utk.edu/tntoday/2011/08/22/ut-students-alumni-win-fulbright-awards/>

-students-alumni-win-fulbright-awards/

**Travis Lee (French B.A., 2008)** reports the following: "I've published a short story, 'The Journey through Nanking', in Independent Ink Magazine. It's unfortunately only available on Kindle (as of this writing). Later on, I'll release it by itself in other formats. I also self-published a small novella, 'Grandpa & Henry', available (again, as of this writing) in multiple ebook formats. The first can be found here: [www.inkmag.com](http://www.inkmag.com), and the latter can be found here at [www.smashwords.com/books/view/90331](http://www.smashwords.com/books/view/90331)

## INTERNATIONAL GEORG BÜCHNER SYMPOSIUM

**From Fragment the World-Stage Navigating a Maze of Editorial, Intercultural, Linguistic, and Dramaturgical**

### Mediations: Georg Büchner In/And

In conjunction with the Clarence Brown Theatre production of "Woyzeck," **Stefanie Ohnesorg (German)** organized an International Georg Büchner Symposium that was held on October 15, 2010 at the UT International House. Entitled "From Fragment the World-Stage: Navigating a Maze of Editorial, Intercultural, Linguistic, and Dramaturgical Mediations: Georg Büchner In/And 'Translation(s)," the symposium featured the following speakers, and each of their presentations focused on mediations and translation(s) that were and still are central and necessary to further the understanding of Büchners works:

**Burghard Dedner**, Professor of German at the University of Marburg, Germany, Director of the Georg Büchner Research Center, and one of the leading Georg Büchner

scholars worldwide. Prof. Dedner primarily focused on his research related to "Woyzeck" that produced new insights on the genesis of the various fragmental stages of this text and also uncovered a multitude of intertextual connections within this text that open up possibilities for new interpretations and intercultural readings of "Woyzeck."

**Doug Langworthy**, Resident Dramaturg/Theatre Historian from the Denver Theatre Company. His presentation highlighted Georg Büchner's importance in the history of modern drama with special emphasis on "Danton's Death" (the only work of Georg Büchner that was published during the authors' lifetime) .

**Stefanie Ohnesorg (German)**, **Noah Soltau (German)**, and **John Sipes**, Director of Clarence Brown Theatre production of "Woyzeck" and Resident Director in Theatre. This joint-presentation focused on

various aspects that informed and influenced the production of "Woyzeck" at the Clarence Brown Theatre, and it demonstrated why it was essential to create a new English language translation of "Woyzeck," namely a translation that is anchored in and informed by the research presented in the first historical-critical German language edition of this text (Marburg 2005).

The International Georg Büchner Symposium at UT was sponsored by the Mildred Haines and William Elijah Morris Lecture Endowment Fund, the Department of Theatre, the Department of Modern Foreign Languages and Literatures, the Department of English, The Humanities Initiative, the Research Seminar on Modern Germany and Central Europe, the German Studies Program, the Office of Academic Outreach in the College of Arts & Sciences, the International House,

and UT Libraries. **Noah Soltau (German)** and **Dawn Danalis (Danalis)** volunteered their time to form the organizational committee that planned and coordinated the logistics for Professor Burghard Dedner's and Doug Langworthy's campus visits during the week of Oct. 11-16, 2010.

*Graduate*

*Student*

*News*

**..... Showcasing "Six out of Sixty" Great Stories Graduate Student Profiles – 2010-11 Edition**

**Amevi Bocco**  
(*French*)

**Janelle Coleman**  
(*Spanish*)

**Emily Pace**  
(*French*)

**Andrew Ray**

*(Spanish)*

**Anja Seiler**

*(German)*

**Noah Soltau**

*(German)*

**Amevi Bocco**  
**Ph.D. Student in**  
**Modern Foreign**  
**Languages with a**  
**first concentration**  
**in French**

Amevi Bocco is originally from Togo, West-Africa. After study in Linguistics at the University of Lomé, Togo, Amevi was forced to leave his home country due to his involvement in the student protests against the Togolese government for the improvement of student and teacher working conditions, democracy and freedom at the University and in the nation as a whole. In the United States, he was granted political asylum and started his first job at a local car wash. While working there, Amevi started learning English and had the opportunity to be hired as a French Translator in the World Language

Department in Cleveland, Tennessee. Then he decided to pursue his education by taking classes at Cleveland State Community College. After successfully completing an Associate Degree, he was granted a scholarship at Lee University, where he graduated in Spring 2008 with the Paul Conn Award, the highest honor given to the graduating senior who demonstrated the greatest promise for future academic and professional careers. In Fall 2008, Amevi was accepted into the French Graduate Program at the University of Tennessee and graduated in Spring 2010 with a Master's in French. He is currently a PhD candidate with Francophone Literature and Applied Linguistics as respectively his first and second concentrations. Amevi is currently engaged in dissertation research and writing. In the summer of 2011 he went to

France in order to meet Kossi Efoui, an exiled politically engaged writer from Togo whose work he is planning to explore in terms of how literature can serve as a tool for development in Africa. While at UTK, Amevi has presented a number of papers at national and international academic conferences, and he was also the recipient of the Graduate Diversity Fellowship (2010-2011). He is a Teaching Associate and also serves as the representative for the French Graduate Students in the MFLL Department. In addition to his study, Amevi is still a full time French Translator for the World Language Department in Cleveland, Tennessee. He is now a naturalized U.S. citizen and was recently reunited with his wife Benoîte Bocco after 10 years of separation from each other.

**Janelle Coleman**  
**Ph.D. Student in**  
**Modern Foreign**  
**Languages with a**  
**first concentration**  
**in Spanish**

Janelle Coleman is in her fourth year as a graduate teaching assistant in the Spanish doctoral program. Her research interests include Afro-Caribbean cultures, as well as Afro-Latino identity formation in the United States. She is also a scholar in the SREB (Southern Regional Education Board) program, an organization that provides fellowships for deserving minority students in Doctoral programs all over the Southeast region. In addition to participating in the SREB program, Janelle has presented papers on Latino and Afro-Caribbean identity development at professional conferences, including the Graduate Student Symposium at the Ohio State University, and the Kentucky Foreign Language Conference at the University of Kentucky. During the

Fall semester, she recently presented a paper on the Afro-Cuban poet, Nicolás Guillén, at the Mountain Interstate Foreign Language Conference, at Auburn University. Aside from teaching and studying literature, Janelle enjoys writing poetry. Two of her poems—"Sweet Africa" and "Morning Love Song" were published in *The Phoenix*, a arts and creative writing publication here at the University of Tennessee. Before starting the Spanish doctoral program in 2008, Janelle was a high school Spanish teacher at Karns High School in Knoxville, TN and then at First Lutheran School, where she worked with middle school students.

**Emily Pace**  
**Ph.D. Student in**  
**Modern Foreign**  
**Languages with a**  
**first concentration**  
**in French**

Emily Pace, a native North Carolinian, happily traversed the mountainous border

and became a Tennessee Volunteer in 2006. She graduated magna cum laude with a B.A. in French and Theatre from Washington and Lee University in Lexington, Virginia, and she completed her Master's in French Literature at the University of Tennessee. While pursuing her Master's, Emily also worked in the College of Architecture and Design as a Student Advisor and Activities Director for the College's annual summer camp "Design Matters." Last year, Emily traveled to Lille, France, where she taught English at l'Université de Lille 3 Charles de Gaulle and researched topics related to architecture and fiction and translation theory. Currently, she is a fourth-year PhD student in French literature at the University of Tennessee and is writing her dissertation on the notion of the "home", metaphorically and

linguistically, in the French novel.

**Andrew Ray**  
**Ph.D. Student in Modern Foreign Languages with a first concentration in Spanish**

Andy Ray's main focus of studies is Latin American literature (primarily Hispanic American), and he is also doing work in Portuguese Studies, his second Ph.D. concentration.

Through his work as a Rural Community Development Volunteer for the Peace Corps (2005-2007) in Costa Rica, Andy developed an interest on Afro-Costa Rican and indigenous forms of knowledge in an effort to offer another perspective on how to read Costa Rican literary works which deal with environmental themes. He is the first ever Peace Corps UT campus recruiter in the history of Tennessee, and recently, he has been awarded a McClure Scholarship from the University of TN in order to carry out his

dissertation studies on Central American literature involving the environment.

He has presented papers in professional conferences including the 4th Crossing Over Symposium at Cleveland State U, the 61st Mountain Interstate Foreign Language Conference at Auburn U, the 64th Annual Kentucky Foreign Language at the U of Kentucky, the 19th Colloquium on Hispanic and Luso-Brazilian Literatures and Linguistics at the U of Texas, Austin, the First Annual Texas A&M Department of Hispanic Studies Graduate Student Symposium at Texas A&M U, the 2010 Colloquium on Literature and Film at West Virginia U, The XIII Annual Hispanic and Lusophone Studies Symposium at Ohio State U, and the 9th Ohio Latin Americanist Conference Modern Latin America at Ohio U.

**Anja Seiler**  
**Ph.D. Student in Modern Foreign**

**Languages with a first concentration in German**

Anja Katharina Seiler was born in Lörrach, Germany. In 2006, she graduated from the University of Karlsruhe in Karlsruhe, Germany, with a Bachelor's Degree in German Studies and Art History. During her studies, she focused on Travel Literature, the European-Arabic cultural dialogue, and Applied Cultural Studies. As a Research Assistant at the University of Karlsruhe, she was actively engaged in two exchange projects with the University La Manouba in Tunis, Tunisia. Both of these exchange projects were supported by the DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service).

In 2008, she entered the German Program at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville as an exchange student from the University of Karlsruhe and concluded her studies with a Master's Degree in German Studies from

UT Knoxville. During that time, as a Graduate Teaching Assistant, she was teaching German as a foreign language at the 100-level. After returning to Germany, Anja finished her Master's Degree in German Studies at the University of Karlsruhe in December 2009 and came back to UT Knoxville in January 2010 to pursue a Ph.D. in Modern Foreign Languages with a first concentration in German. To expand her interdisciplinary work at the interface of comparative literature and linguistics, to do research and teach, she has been spending the academic year 2010-11 as a graduate exchange student at the University of Mannheim in Mannheim, Germany. There, she taught a seminar on "Cultural Theory and its Relevance in a Globalised World" and a course entitled "Linguistic Interculturalism –

Multilingual German Contemporary (Migration) Literature." Linguistic Interculturalism constitutes the framework for her dissertation where she analyzes performativity and other modes of expression in the work of Ilma Rakusa, Marica Bodrožić and Dimitré Dinev. In 2007, Anja worked as a part-time freelance editor in Switzerland, and she was a member of the editorial team for Mihael Puhar's *Memoiren eines Europäers: Immer am Zahn der Zeit* (*Memoirs of a European*). Currently, she is also working as an editor for a German-Slovenian book project and translating a diary in which a Slovenian-born man gives his perspective on World War I and life in the Balkan countries at the beginning of the 20th century. The translated diary entries will be contextualized within the larger framework of Eastern-European

history and culture at that time. As part of her academic education, she regularly attends professional workshops and conferences, including TFLTA (Tennessee Foreign Language Teaching Association) where she presented a paper on Modern German Film in 2010 and a paper on Ilma Rakusa's poetry in 2011. In August 2011, she represented UT by presenting on her dissertation topic at the Annual Conference of GIG (Association for Intercultural German Studies) in Bangkok, Thailand. Anja is the recipient of several prestigious fellowships, including the Nordsieck Scholarship and the Maria Harris Scholarship (both awarded by the German Program at UT, Knoxville), and the Baden-Württemberg Fellowship awarded by the State of Baden-Württemberg, Germany.

**Noah Soltau**  
**Ph.D. Student in**  
**Modern Foreign**  
**Languages with a**  
**first concentration**  
**in German**

Noah Soltau is a Ph.D. candidate in the Modern Foreign Languages and Literatures Department, with concentrations in German and Applied Linguistics. In the last year, Noah worked diligently to bring attention to his program and his home institution. He published two book reviews for the humanities digital consortium H-Net, and translated Georg Büchner's *Woyzeck*, along with Dr. Stefanie Ohnesorg, for the Clarence Brown Theater. He presented papers at several regional and international conferences, including the annual TFLTA conference, the International Büchner Symposium at the University of Tennessee, and at Wayne State University's Center for the Study of Citizenship.

Additionally, Noah organized a number of campus events that showcase the integral role that the Department of Modern Foreign Languages and Literatures plays on campus, including the aforementioned International Büchner Symposium and the "do Deutsch Campus Week" (Oct. 10-14, 2011) which was co-sponsored by the German Embassy in Washington (<http://dodeutsch.utk.edu/>). One of his many responsibilities in the context of organizing the "do Deutsch Campus Week" was to serve as the event coordinator for a German Career Fair that will be hosted in collaboration with UT Career Services on Oct. 12, 2011. Noah earned his Bachelor's Degree in German and Comparative Literature from the University of Georgia. He earned his Master's Degree in German from the University of Tennessee, and as

part of his M.A. Program at UT, he spent a year as a graduate exchange student at Eberhard Karls Universität Tübingen in Germany. His exchange year at the University of Tübingen was in part funded through the prestigious Baden-Württemberg Fellowship awarded by the State of Baden Württemberg, Germany. After the completion of the M.A. degree, Noah entered the Ph.D. program in Modern Foreign Languages at UT, and upon entering the Ph.D. Program he was awarded the prestigious Spivey Fellowship by the UT Graduate School. He is also a recipient of the Nordsieck Scholarship awarded by the German Program at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. In 2010-11, Noah served as Graduate Student Representative for the Department of Modern Foreign Languages and Literatures. He currently teaches



lower division German and is writing his dissertation. The focus of his dissertation project is to examine some of the challenges associated with reconstructing and translating literary fragments. His other research interests include film and twentieth century German history and literature.

## GRADUATE

## STUDENT

## NOTES

**Ana Barrios (Spanish)** presented "El sabor agridulce del testimonio de Maria de los Reyes Castillo Bueno" at the 19th Colloquium on Hispanic and Luso-Brazilian Literatures and Linguistics, University of Texas at Austin, February 25-26, 2011.

**Joanna Broda-Schunck (German)** presented a paper on "Die Kultur, die Sprache und *Das Leben der Anderen*" at

the Tennessee Foreign Language Teaching Association conference in November 2010.

**Dawn Danalis (German) and Michael Kobs (German)** co-presented a paper on "*Schultze Gets the Blues - And You Get German(s): Language and Identity in East Germany and the US*" at the Tennessee Foreign Language Teaching Association conference in November 2010.

**Joy Essigmann-Hancock (German)** presented "Ein kleiner, schwarzer Punkt am weissen Himmel: Antarctica & Ice in German Modernism," at the Exploring Environments: Ecocritical Approaches to German Literature and Culture Conference, Harvard University (Nov. 2011). She also received a scholarship from the Huguenot Society for her essay titled "I'm Fighting for that Child: A Huguenot Tradition in American Literature,"

which will be published in the society's publication, *The Huguenot*.

**Leonel Gleees (Spanish)** presented a paper entitled "Sirena Selena vestida de pena: travestismo como una identidad de 'Caos' y poder" at the 64th Annual Kentucky Foreign Language Conference, University of Kentucky at Lexington, April 14-16, 2011.

**R. Eric Johnson (German) and Noah Soltau (German)** co-presented a paper on "'Pedagogical Basterds': Teaching German Culture and Language with Quentin Tarantino's *Inglorious Basterds*" at the Tennessee Foreign Language Teaching Association conference in November 2010.

**Lisa Y.F. Parker (Spanish)** presented a paper on "La aportación lingüística de los emigrantes de las Islas Canarias al carácter del español en la lengua del jíbaro de Puerto Rico" at the

19th Colloquium on Hispanic and Luso-Brazilian Literatures and Linguistics, U of Texas at Austin (February 2011), and she also gave a paper entitled "En defensa del idioma como parte de la identidad puertorriqueña: Injértese en nuestro lenguaje el inglés; pero el tronco ha de ser el de español" at the 64th Annual Kentucky Foreign Language Conference, University of Kentucky at Lexington, April 14-16, 2011.

**Luciana Prestes Bean (Spanish)** presented a paper entitled "Desconstruyendo estereotipos y estableciendo nuevas imágenes para Chica da Silva" at the 64th Annual Kentucky Foreign Language Conference, University of Kentucky at Lexington, April 14-16, 2011.

## **"do Deutsch" Olympiad & "do Deutsch" Campus Week at UT**

With the support of the German Embassy in Washington, "do Deutsch" Campus Weeks were held at 44 colleges and universities across the United States in Fall 2011, and UT was one of the institutions that had been invited to participate (<http://www.dodeutsch.h.utk.edu/>). We are proud to report that UT's "do Deutsch" German Campus Week did receive special attention on the website of the Germany Information Center, and that we are prominently featured in their "Campus Weeks Gallery" ([http://www.germany.info/Vertretung/usa/en/11\\_\\_Campaign/Do\\_Deutsch\\_GIC\\_CW/DoDeutschCWmain.html](http://www.germany.info/Vertretung/usa/en/11__Campaign/Do_Deutsch_GIC_CW/DoDeutschCWmain.html))

Starting August 29, 2011, UT Knoxville students could enter

the "Do Deutsch!" Olympiad, a pentad of creativity contests based upon the theme "German(y) in your Life." Entries for the categories Essay, Graphic Arts/Sculpture, Poem/Song, and Speech were accepted in English, Deutsch (German), or a mixture of both. These creativity competitions were facilitated through BlackBoard, and the entire campus was invited to participate ([www.dodeutsch.utk.edu/olympiad](http://www.dodeutsch.utk.edu/olympiad)). In Early October, the entire campus community was invited to vote in order to select the local winners. Campus winners were revealed during "Do Deutsch!" Week, October 10–14 ([www.dodeutsch.utk.edu/week](http://www.dodeutsch.utk.edu/week)), and the winner in each of the five categories did move up to the national competition for a chance to win a trip to Berlin. The German Embassy determines the national winners who will be announced in Spring 2012.

UT's "do Deutsch" Campus Week was scheduled from Oct. 10 – 14, 2011, and activities and events included a Career Fair, an Outdoor Film Festival, a Theatre Production, Outdoor Games, a Dog Show, Lectures, Presentations, special radio programming on WUOT and WUTK, an Oktoberfest, and much, much more. A full schedule of events is posted at <http://www.dodeutsch.utk.edu/week/schedule.shtml>. Special guests who came to visit during UT's "do Deutsch" Campus Week included Dr. Hans-Ulrich von Schroeter, Deputy Director of the German Information Center, German Embassy in Washington, Dr. Frank Raddatz, chief editor of the German theatre magazine *THEATER DER ZEIT*, and Petra Schuermann, editor-in-chief of *German World*.

## STUDY ABROAD

### UT IN ALICANTE

In the MFLL upper-division Alicante (Spain) summer program, students were enrolled in upper-division Spanish courses, lived one-per-household in Spanish homes, and participated in cultural events and excursions. For information on the 2012 Alicante program, contact **Dr. Millie Gimmel** ([mgimmel@utk.edu](mailto:mgimmel@utk.edu)).

### UT IN PARIS

The May-June 2011 UTK in Paris program once again took the City of Light by storm with a contingent of twenty undergraduates and one graduate student. A stately classroom building across from the Jardin du Luxembourg, where an intermediate French course and

one on contemporary France were offered, served as the academic home for the group. Professor John Romeiser and Lecturer Allison Weems accompanied the students and led the classes. Students lived and took their meals with French families and also were responsible for giving short lectures during site visits in and around Paris.

Weekend trips took the group to the châteaux in the Loire River Valley, where students and program leaders sampled wine and visited such sites as Blois, Chambord, and Chenonceau, and also to St-Malo, Mont-Saint-Michel, and the Normandy Beaches. Once again, the students and instructors got to make the crossing to the Mont on foot like the early Christian pilgrims. En route they learned about the estuary's plant and marine life, as well as the infamous quicksand in the Mont-St-Michel bay. No lives were lost during

the crossing, although several learned that the famed quicksand was more than just a legend.

Plans are currently underway for the seventh UT in Paris program, tentatively scheduled for May 26-June 23, 2012. Please contact John Romeiser ([jromeise@utk.edu](mailto:jromeise@utk.edu)) for further information.

### **UT IN SANTANDER**

**Dr. Luis Cano** led the UT in Spain lower-division program to Spain, which took place in Santander from May to June. In addition to completing Spanish 211-212, the sixteen students visited the cities of Madrid, Toledo, Bilbao, and San Sebastián, and hiked in the Picos de Europa. For information on the 2012 UT in Spain program, **Dr. Jaime Rivera** ([jrivera4@utk.edu](mailto:jrivera4@utk.edu)).

### **UT IN URBINO**

For information on the 2012 UT in Urbino program, the UT study abroad program that has run for the most consecutive years, contact Dr. Sal DiMaria ([sdimaria@utk.edu](mailto:sdimaria@utk.edu)).

### **UT IN COSTA RICA**

The Spanish Section is proud to announce the creation of a new program in Costa Rica, on which students will be able to take advanced level courses in Spanish during the second summer session. For information on this program, contact Dr. Óscar Rivera-Rodas ([oriverar@utk.edu](mailto:oriverar@utk.edu)).

**OUTSTANDING STUDENTS IN  
THE DEPARTMENT OF  
MODERN FOREIGN  
LANGUAGES AND  
LITERATURES  
(Fall 2010 – Summer 2011)**

**Outstanding Graduating  
Seniors**

- Walter Preston  
Battle IV (French)
- Sarah Driggers  
(Spanish)
- Kayla May-Marsh  
(French)
- Samuel Smith  
(Russian)
- Emily Sterchi  
(Spanish)
- Devlyn Tedesco  
(German)
- Christopher Walker  
(Language and World  
Business, Spanish /  
French)

**Recognition for Excellence in  
French Studies**

- Stephen Lorange
- Olivia Morin

**Recognition of Superior  
Excellence in the Study of  
Italian**

- Clayton Gupton
- Laura Tenpenny

**Kirkland Family Scholarship  
(Spanish)**

- Emily Hunt
- Lauren Kinnard
- Maggie McCluny

**American Council of  
Teachers of Russian Post-  
Secondary Russian Scholar**

**Laureate  
(for The University of  
Tennessee - Knoxville)**

- Jacob Crowder

**Gerti Wunderlich  
Scholarship (German)**

- Brook Conner
- Margaret Cross
- Mark Dreifke
- Jeremy Duchow
- Jefferson Hinton

**Maria Haan Harris  
Scholarship (German)**

- Matthew Cook
- Trai Swaney
- Stephanie Weir
- Michelle Wieczynski

**John C. Osborne Memorial  
Fellowship (German)**

- Julia Bell
- Eric Gedenk
- Bonnie Jendrek
- Nicole Swartwood

**John L. and Elizabeth V. Kind  
Scholarship (German)**

- Thea Aub
- William Bolden
- Lindsay Clark
- Brian Conlon
- Cameron Emerson
- Patrick Fifer
- Kaley Mitchell
- Donald Young

**Reinhold Nordsieck  
Scholarship (German)**

- Dawn Danalis
- Stephen Jones
- Michael Kobs
- Emily Leturno

- Hannah Long
- Rachel Radford
- Tony Sax
- Elizabeth Schonagen
- Ulrike Sczesni
- Anja Seiler

**Dennis Randall Shockley  
Award (German)**

- Jennifer Rushing

**Students Selected for the  
French Graduate Exchange  
Program with the University  
of Lille in 2010-2011**

- Agnes Brihaye  
(from U of Lille)
- Aaron Hutson (at U  
of Lille)
- Sarah Lloyd (at U of  
Lille)
- Sarah Wartelle  
(from U of Lille)

**Students Selected for  
German Graduate Exchange  
Programs in 2010-2011**

- Isabella Baumgart  
(from U of Stuttgart)
- Heather Harrison (at  
Duale Hochschule  
Mannheim)
- Daniel Jach (from U  
of Mannheim)
- R. Eric Johnson (at U  
of Karlsruhe)
- James Cody Long (at  
Duale Hochschule  
Mannheim)
- Matthias  
Mühlhäuser (from U of  
Karlsruhe)
- Anja Seiler (at U of  
Mannheim)
- Trai Swaney (at  
Duale Hochschule  
Mannheim)

**Advanced Degrees  
(Fall 2010 through  
Summer 2011)**

**Ph.D. in Modern  
Foreign Languages**

**Spring 2011  
Graduation**

**Kandace Kane  
Holladay**

"Visión histórico-política de México a través de cuatro dramaturgas mexicanas "

Ph.D. in Modern Foreign Languages (May-2011)

1<sup>st</sup> concentration:  
Spanish

2<sup>nd</sup> concentration:  
Portuguese

Major Prof.: Óscar Rivera Rodas

**Link to this  
dissertation:**

[http://trace.tennessee.edu/utk\\_graddiss/979](http://trace.tennessee.edu/utk_graddiss/979)

**Summer 2011  
Graduation**

**Yulia Draganova  
Kovatcheva**

" La modernité esthétique chez André Malraux : La quête du 'primitif'"

Ph.D. in Modern Foreign Languages (May-2010)

1<sup>st</sup> concentration:

French

2<sup>nd</sup> concentration:

Russian

Major Prof.: John

Romeiser

**Link to this**

**dissertation:**[http://trace.tennessee.edu/utk\\_graddiss/1091](http://trace.tennessee.edu/utk_graddiss/1091)

**M.A. in French**

**Spring 2011  
Graduation**

Trenton Hoy

David Mullins

Laurent Zunino

**M.A. in German**

**Fall 2010  
Graduation**

Franziska  
Ludemann

**Summer 2010  
Graduation**

Daniel Jach

Ryan Bartlett  
Linger

Stephanie  
Morrissey

**We gratefully acknowledge the following 2010-11 donors to the  
Department of MFL:**

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Ms. Patricia M. Bateman  
Mr. Donald E. Casey  
Mr. Travis A. Christian  
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Dr. Gregory B. Kaplan  
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Dr. Stephen F. Richards, Jr.  
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